

JAN 21 1927

455
SECRETARIES

January 6, 1927

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear
Yenching University
Paitien, Peking, China.

Dearest Marty:

I wrote you last from the boat between Honolulu and San Francisco on the Sunday after Christmas. The sea quieted down very much after that and we had a lovely quiet voyage ending. I was working away all the time on our report and besought the captain not to put in to San Francisco on time but to cruise around for a week on these quiet seas until I could finish my report. He had had a baby boy born, however, in San Francisco during the voyage and was anxious to make his acquaintance, and the passengers were also averse to my plan so we went into San Francisco exactly on time early in the morning of December 29th. There were friends waiting on the dock with great packages of letters and the Yowcas were there with photographers to take mother's picture for advertising purposes. Alas! I could not escape and a friend sent us later some clippings which show the tragic results. Two of them are not bad - One of them makes mother look very much like Mrs. Cushman but the one entitled "Friends of Asia" represents, as you will see an obvious forget and bank breaker and his movie wife who evidently is advertising some specially effective lip stick. The picture which represents Miss Johanna Volkman and me as "answering Humanity's Call" was obtained under false pretenses. Miss Volkman and mother were stood up clasping one another's hands, both of them, and I was posed behind them and told to smile on Miss Volkman. Then the photographer cut mother off the picture and leaves me gazing with fond admiration on Miss Volkman. I don't know whether I am humanity whose call she is answering, or vice versa. But mother felt sure that you and Augusta would be greatly edified by these pictures.

We had not one moment of rest in San Francisco. We were held up in the Customs by a representative of the Department of Agriculture who was bringing in a few green houses of plants with him from Japan and China and Honolulu. When our inspectors got to us they were in such a kindly mood that they passed by our articles through the Customs with duties amounting to \$16.10. When I told mother later the amount that we had paid she was incredulous. In addition to all the old stuff she had in Peking she and William had bought clothes in Shanghai. Fortunately everything had been worn however, and I looked so honest, in spite of the forger's and embezzler's picture, that the inspectors made no trouble. Billy attributed it to the presence of Dr. Hobdy who had come down with Mrs. Hobdy to welcome us. But as a matter of fact all the inspectors were just good decent, kindly Americans who were not bothering at all honest American citizens. That got us through was, of course, that mother's silks were old silks - the clothing had all been worn, and that most of our trinkets were really hardly dutiable

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We did not get away from the dock until after eleven and then Dr. Kerr and I had to go off to see about our tickets and luggage and when I got up to the St. Francis Hotel at twelve o'clock I found mother resting on the bed in our room with a lady reporter interviewing her. I had to get her up at once and we rushed off to a grand luncheon in the ball room of the hotel which Stanley Hunter had prepared with some five or six hundred people. We all had to make addresses. We were then barely able to get away from reporters and photographers and Yowcas to catch the four o'clock train for Chicago and even then the secretary of the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce came with us as far as Sacramento to talk over bringing some next Y.W.C.A. gathering to Sacramento.

We had a beautiful trip to Chicago. The weather was clear and cool. As we got off the train in Chicago Elliott was there to meet us and we all went to his room at the La Salle Hotel where mother and Billy took baths and we then went back to the station to meet Constance who had been with Elliott at the Student convention in Milwaukee. We had a nice New Year party together and then mother and Patty and Billy and Dr. Kerr and I left on the Pennsylvania at four thirty new year's day for home. We dropped Dr. Kerr in Pittsburgh in time for his Sunday service the first Sunday of the New Year. The rest of us came on to spend Sunday in Harrisburgh with Annette and Alger. Auntie Fay was in Detroit but Miss Murdaugh was there and Uncle Eddie was with us a part of the time. Aunt Elizabeth and Aunt Mary and George had all been under the weather - poor George with a bad attack of the flu which had caused some digestive complications.

On Monday we came back to New York and yesterday afternoon Billy went back to Hotchkiss and in the evening Patty returned to Bryn Mawr. They had filled the hours pretty full since we got in on Monday.

I left mother at 52 Gramercy Park this morning to have her first good rest and to get unpacked. We are on the same floor but not in the same rooms as before. I don't think mother is altogether satisfied. She was going to see Miss Geary this morning with a view to considering the new cooperative apartments in which Miss Geary is interested. With the house in Englewood and the house in Lakeville I think we are well enough supplied at present with real estate and we ought to hold off in buying any more until I have sold the Englewood property. I went out yesterday afternoon to see it and to get some winter clothes which I needed. It always makes me homesick to go back.

Mr. Meserole who has bought the Dwight Jones place has written me of the possibility of selling our house for the little boys school which this last year has been in the old Backus house on Palisade Avenue. Our house would be a far better place and Mr. Meserole would let the school use some of his property as a playground. I have written him that I would be glad to sell the place for \$50,000.00. Mother thinks she would like to hold the woodland back of the house which I bought from Mr. Montgomery year before last, but I think we would better sell the whole property. There would be carrying charges and taxes on the woodland and I don't believe we would ever want to use it and I don't think the place will increase in value to justify our carrying the property

Moreover I think that anyone who buys the house will want the little woodland also.

There are innumerable things to be got in hand in getting back. Indeed, as I look back over the last ten years it seems to me I have not done much of anything except roam around the world and get ready for roaming, and then gather up the loose ends on returning. There are a number of good tough problems to be dealt with. Happily one always sees them in a little truer prospective after getting back from far off lands and from trying to see the great and steady movements that are bearing the whole world on.

Among the letters waiting us was one from Dr. Kelman written on Christmas, which mother thought you would like to see a copy. It was as follows:

Nothing could have been more welcome nor delightful than your most friendly letter of last summer. It was a letter that did me good, body, soul and spirit. Since then we have heard of you and Mrs. Speer from our dear little group ineking, where you both did much to cheer and help them. It has been indeed good to know that you were both with them and we are very grateful to you both for all your kindness to them.

I miss the Foreign Mission Board fellowship and its meetings quarterly and am delighted in the hope that Dr. Vinot Voyer may take my place there, severing his old connection. He and Dr. Howard seem to be a combination of splendid promise for the Fifth Avenue congregation where my heart will always dwell among many of the dearest friends of my life. How good they have always been to me and mine!

The news of the Assembly made my heart leap for joy and is full of hope for the future welfare of the great American Presbyterian Church. What a magnificent body of faith and works it is, and will be more and more.

I have got settled down on the shelf and in spite of some troublesome set-backs am beginning the next year with much more prospect of health than I have had since my ridiculous breakdown. The shelf has its good points after all. There is plenty of leisure for thinking and remembering and praising God. The backward view is full of fascinating memories, and the forward view, though hazy on this side of the stars shows a mysterious and steady view beyond them.

We rejoice greatly in your son's splendid part in Northfield. May God bless him in all his work.

With our very cordial regard and good wishes to you both,
Ever very sincerely your friend.

I had a fine letter from Dr. Cairns while I was out in China and I enclose a copy of that too. I wrote Dr. Cairns a long reply, summarizing conditions in China, but all that is done far more extensively in the report which I have written and which I think I shall print although, of course, conditions in China will have greatly changed there for better or for worse before the report can come out.

Elliott was looking very well and he had only good reports regarding him and the work at Northfield. I was speaking yesterday at the Women's Missionary meeting here and some woman came up afterwards full of enthusiasm over some sermon she had heard Elliott preach at Northfield. She told me she could even remember the text. I have learned by long experience, however, never to ask people to repeat the text. Too

many times they can remember it but are unable at the moment to validate the remembrance.

Grandmother, Susie and Daisy have gone to Geneva. Susie is certainly a dear old sport to go tramping off with Daisy to settle the politics of the world at headquarters. They have left feathers with some friend - I do not know who, and I am wondering when we shall ever see the little doggie again.

The morning papers are full of the Hankow news. It is interesting to apply one's critical faculties to it and to try to see all that is printed in real truth. The fundamental problem is as to whether the southern movement can play with fire and control it at the same time; whether they can stir up all the elements of unrest and discontent in China and then prevent those forces from getting beyond their control.

I enclose herewith your cancelled checks from the Englewood bank. The statement shows that you have a credit there of \$366.36. Whenever you wish any replenishment of this credit please let us know.

It is good to be in such perfect peace of mind with regard to things and to try to comfort the hearts of all these poor people here who have relatives in China and who are in a fever of anxiety with regard to them.

It is good to look back over these rich months that lie behind and to think of the happy but all too short days with you.

With dearest love and all our heart's trust and joy,

I don't know how soon I shall be able to get out to
Huntingdon but I will come when I can. I have forgotten when
Aunt Clara is sailing. We certainly will see her here, I hope,
before she goes.

With dearest love from us all,

Your affectionate brother,

Miss Margaret B. Spear

FILING DEPT.

MAR 15 1927

435
SECRETARIES

March 3, 1927

(Dictated February 26)

My dear Marne:

These are great days for talking about China. One has an opportunity to do so at least seven times a week and it is very difficult to say anything that doesn't result in your getting rapped from one side or the other. If you state the dark facts then the rosy optimists get after you and if you state your hopes and dreams as though they were the facts then the realists get out their clubs. In speaking the other day I made the statement that the communistic movement in China claimed to be nationalistic and am now being taken to task as though I had said that the nationalistic movement in China was communistic.

It was very interesting in Canton to get a careful and dispassionate account of the situation of the struggle between the left and the right wings of the Kuomintang from some of the young Chinese who are associated with it. There hope, of course, was that the nationalist element would be able to dominate and repress the communistic but they recognized that the struggle was on ~~between the two~~ and that so far as the labor unions in November were concerned the communistic element had won the fight - hands down. Evidently the left wing is in the saddle in Hunan also. No amount of conciliation and acceptance of educational registration ~~and~~ regulations has saved Yale or any of the other institutions in Hunan, and indeed, the proclamations are striking just as hard at the classics as they are at the Bible as far as the Hunan schools are concerned. Most of our people are now out of Hunan but I am glad to say that there are only two stations from which the missionaries have withdrawn altogether - Chenchow and Changteh.

All the letters speak with the greatest admiration of the calm control and patience of the British at Hankow, and evidently both the British and American forces are being handled with discretion and patience in Shanghai now. One hopes and prays that there may be no pretext for any Chinese outburst against foreigners and that the Chinese struggle within may work out in a real hopeful and constructive way.

Mother and I are going to the Foreign Policy Association luncheon today to hear Grover Clark and Hu Shih.

I think I wrote you that we have sold the Englewood house to the Dwight School. They are expecting to have their little Girls' Day School there. The first payment has been met and we are to move the things out in April and transfer the title on May 3rd. The present plan is to take some of the things to Rockledge, to send some up to Elliott and Holly for their new house and to store the rest in a storage warehouse in Brooklyn unless we can decide on some unfurnished apartment here and put the rest of the things there. The books will be a real problem. The warehouse man

who is to look after the work was amazed that any human being should accumulate so many books. He says he never saw but one other house that had so many books in it to be moved. It is hard to pull up roots from Englewood after these thirty years but it is clearly the sensible thing to do.

I was interested to get yesterday a very handsome booklet advertising The Camp Diamond Summer Camp for Boys. The advantages of the Camp and the wonderful equipment of it are described in very handsome terms and there are a number of the old pictures. One might gather from the pamphlet that any clever boy can go out into the woods with a camera and photograph a deer or a bear, and there is alleged to be a baseball field beside the tennis courts. Elliott knows something of the young men who are to be in charge and who seem to be largely a Lafayette group.

After the luncheon to-day I am going down to Washington to speak in the First Congregational Church tomorrow. The morning meeting is in a theatre and the evening meeting in a Synagogue. This is the President's church but he has just vetoed what Will Rogers calls the Mary McHaugen bill and all the farmers' organizations are up in arms so that I rather hope that he and the crowds that go to see him will not be at church tomorrow morning.

We had great fun at our Board staff dinner. One of the stunts was to throw on the screen baby pictures of the various officers of the Board and then later to throw beside them the adult picture. They got a little three or four year old picture of me somewhere. Later somebody sent mother a page from a Y.N.C. magazine which mother thought perhaps you had seen, but I enclose it herewith together with the key. I enclose also an editorial from the Sunday Times on Brooks Adams, which will interest you. The book which he and Henry wrote some years ago - "The Degradation of the Democratic Dogma" is one of the most interesting and glorious bits of utter political despair that I have ever read. It would go very well with Mr. Gilbert's "What's Wrong with China?"

Mother and I spent last Sunday in Bryn Mawr. It was one of the stormiest days of the winter and there was a very select congregation in the First Church where I spoke in the morning. Mother spent the afternoon and evening with Miss Thomas and Miss Park and Miss Kingsbury (seriatim) while I went over in the evening to speak at Ogontz. I met a classmate of yours there, but perhaps she was a year before you - a Miss Carson. The evening before I had spoken at the Philadelphia Student Volunteer Union of which Irene Gates is the President.

Perhaps I better enclose a copy of the note which I wrote to Dr. Atkinson of the World Alliance with regard to a letter which he had received from Professor Harry Ward with reference to my comment on communism in China. Sometime I think I must send you a copy of the letter which Mr. George Sokolsky wrote of Professor Ward when we were in Shanghai. He was the man who took Professor Ward about and brought him in contact with the labor groups in Shanghai and he thinks that Professor Ward is either incapable of seeing the facts or incapable of stating them. I haven't made any use of this letter but I have the original of it and I may some time have to use it. Professor Ward is certainly a radical emotionalist

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer

- 3 -

if ever there was one, behind his appearance of a restrained interpreter of reality.

We are having a very mild winter but there have been several rather nasty rain storms that froze. Poor Miss Wodge slipped on a piece of ice over at Chestnut Hill the other day and broke her hip.

We have no recent word from Mrs. Roys and Miss Schultz but I presume that they must by this time be on their way to Mesopotamia.

With dearest love from us all,

FILING DEPT.

MAR 7 1927

453
SECRETARIES

March 4, 1927

Mrs. Charles L. Reid,
234 Penn Street,
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Mig,

I had not meant to let all this time pass without at least a note to you to tell you how we are getting along here. We have sold our house in Englewood so that, I suppose, henceforth we shall have to regard ourselves as citizens of Connecticut, unless we buy an apartment here in New York City, which I am rather reluctant to do. We have nice rooms at 52 Gramercy Park on the seventh floor, which is better than on the 4th, and are just as comfortable as it is possible to be there. But Emma would like to have a little more room, especially for the children, and friends, and would like to have a kitchenette, at least, for housekeeping purposes. We are looking about and if we find the right place, shall probably move some of our furniture into it and take the rest into Lakeville to the place which we have bought there. It is a nice old, white house, quite done over with a barn and ice house, and various out buildings, a boat house on the Lake and about 10 or 12 acres of ground.

As Charlie will have told you he and Constance and I saw Aunt Clara off. I was glad to find that my dear old friend Mr. Revell was a fellow-passenger, and Aunt Clara writes that they have had nice times together. I do not know of any one who more resembles Uncle Stewart than Mr. Revell.

I was at Union College a fortnight ago, and had a glimpse of Hugh Wright, who is a very nice boy. Last Sunday I was in Washington, speaking at the First Congregational Church. Its building is condemned so that it holds its

5/4/27

morning service now in a big theatre and the evening services in a Jewish synagogue. This is the church the President attends and he was there in the morning and a great crowd of people, many of whom I suppose come to get a glimpse of him. It was good to preach the gospel just as simply and directly as one could without paying any attention to the fact that the President was there.

Aunt Clara sent me some of Will Focht's collections from old newspapers, including the shooting of the deer and the tramp to Gettysburg. She said also that he had a paragraph about my shooting the wild turkey, but I did not see that. I can see the turkey though very well, although that was 47 years ago. I went around early that morning, just about daylight to route out Warren Simpson and we were away out on the top of Stone Creek ridge before the sun was up and scared the turkeys that were in the middle of the road. They flew down over some fields into the woods and Warren and I went down and lay on the fence corners and I called one of the turkeys with a turkey caller made out of the Thanksgiving turkey's wing. I can hear that turkey still as it answered way down in the woods and then as the brown leaves rustling as it came up through the underbrush, and I can see it clearly as it squatted on the ground after I shot. I remember everything that Warren and I did afterwards and the walk home and my dumping the turkey down in the law offices before a visitor from Philadelphia who had never seen a wild turkey before.

I had a letter from Dr. E. M. Braunbaugh a few days ago asking whether they might not name one of the buildings at the college either the R. Milton Speer dormitory or after me, and I told him not at all and never.

Patty and Bill seem very happy at their work and Elliott is as busy as a beaver and everything in Peking seems to be tranquil and we have not the least apprehension on Marnie's account.

With a great deal of love to Charlie,

Ever affectionately yours

FILING DEPT.

JUN 24 1927

455
SECRETARIES

June 23, 1927

(Dictated June 22)

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peking, West, China

My dear Harnie:

Patty and I are keeping house alone at present in Miss Edith Hamilton's apartment at 24 Gramercy Park. I think I wrote you that we had given up "52" and gone over to "24" until Miss Hamilton comes back October first when we are hoping that we can find an apartment in this same building that will be within our reach. Patty is a fine housekeeper and we have the funniest little maid named Pisa whom we have inherited from Miss Hamilton and who is greatly enamoured with Patty. She is a widow with two small boys and it is a real pleasure to be able to help tide her over the summer.

Mother and Billy and Miss Wurdwahn are all at Rockledge and a telegram yesterday from Daisy said that she and her mother would be stopping there today on their way up to New London. Patty and I are planning to go up on the night train tomorrow night to Northfield and get the car and bring it down to Lakeville. Patty is packing up today with the expectation of staying on at Rockledge, but I shall have to come back to be here probably until the end of July. The next fortnight will be full of speaking engagements east and west and I hope to settle down here pretty uninterruptedly for the last three weeks of July to catch up with all the correspondence that ought to be gone through with.

We are making some readjustment of the offices that will help a bit. Mr. Nesbitt, one of the best of the younger missionaries in India, is extending his furlough so as to take over the correspondence with the India, Persia, Syria and Mesopotamia Missions. That will ease things up a bit as regard the mission administrative work, but what is let down will be far more than made up by what ought to be done in connection with the general work of the Church this year. I am already trying to get a number of things under way to see if we cannot substitute action for some part at least of the talk and conferences in which it is so easy to let all energies evaporate.

You will have heard of Dr. Barbour's sudden death. Mother had word by cable and I received this morning a nice letter from Miss Alice Davison. I think you will be interested in some paragraphs from it.

"The month since I landed, after a fine crossing, has been most interesting. I haven't even yet got over the feeling here of living in a story book. This was emphasized this year by my entertaining two Highlanders for Assembly - a minister and his wife from the Outer Hebrides - the Island of Lewis. It was a rare experience - such dear good people - on whom I look now as real friends.

"It was an interesting Assembly - They had feared trouble when the question of union came up, but on the whole the discussion was amicable, though it lasted for five hours, during which I sat enthralled. Then a very large majority voted to "accept the deliverance." from the joint committee of the two churches. Foreign Missions Day began with a breakfast at 8.30, and ended with a three hours evening meeting with an overflow in the High Church.

"My greatest surprise has been on coming home one morning to find the card of the Misses Murdock, Hwai Yuen. It did not take me long to get to their sister's home, where they are staying. They have, I am sure, written you of some of their thrilling experiences in coming via Siberia.

"Dr. and Mrs. Kelman have dined with me and it is a joy to see him better, though still very thin and pale. He has, however, been greatly upset by the word from Barbara who was expected in June - "Detained Shanghai - Measles." A later cable says they are to sail in September.

Sunday, June 18th.

"Little did I think yesterday of the news with which I should close this letter but which I know you already have by cable. When Dr. Black announced in St. George's this morning, the passing of dear Dr. Barbour. It was the greatest shock. Only Friday evening I saw Mrs. Baker and Rob Barbour at Mrs. Barbara Simpson's. Mrs. Baker said she had come from London to see her mother who had been ill but was much better. And this was the very next morning. I know what it will mean to you and Emma and I feel so much sympathy for you. We were speaking of you Friday eve. It is not long since I lunched there and Dr. Barbour seemed so well. How he will be missed. Forgive this long letter. Loving greetings to you all."

I think you will be interested also in Dr. Kelman's last letter.

"My dear Dr. Speer:

Very many thanks for taking time, amid your many and absorbing duties, to write me your exceedingly kind letter of April 27th. There is a great brotherhood of those who know at first hand the meaning of "like as a Father pitieth his children." It was a great joy to us to think of you all at Peking and to hear such happy and appreciative accounts of that visit from Barbara. She and her little girls are at present at Shanghai. They started to sail for us by the Saarbruelen but had to be put ashore at Shanghai owing to measles. What the future will evolve we cannot imagine. - everything is in the melting-pot in China, or rather in the purpose of God, and "in His will is our peace."

"Ever so many thanks for the report which you sent us - a tremendous piece of work which will be of the greatest value - and for the report of the speeches on China, which my wife and I have read together with the deepest interest.

With warm regard,

Ever yours most affectionately,

(Signed) John Kelman.

P.S. - I am putting much in statu quo, so far as my leg and my eye go. Last year's surgical operations have been entirely successful so the consequent weakness has now passed."

I have a great portfolio of telegrams and letters which have come in with regard to the Moderatorship. They are very nice reading. It is good to know that there are so many friends and especially encouraging to get from all over the Church - from conservative and liberal groups alike - the same kind of expressions of desire for unity and work for deeper faith and newness of life.

A number of our Presbyterian delegates to the Lausanne Conference have gone and others will be going soon. I don't at all regret our having given up the idea long ago. The General Assembly voted that the Moderator should go but I don't see how it can be done, especially if mother and I go to the meeting of the International Council in Jerusalem next spring - March 24-April 8, as we are planning to do. The

The Board had some very interesting and divided discussions on Monday on the subject of its policy with regard to indemnities and its policy with regard to religious instruction and registration. Regarding the latter its final action was simply to approve the findings of the Shanghai Evaluation Conference on the subject # 26424 through and including #26428. I judge that this was about as much as the Board could do in all these present uncertainties.

On the subject of indemnities of course there was the same division of mind that one would find in any group. At last, with some division of the vote, the following action was taken.

On report of the Special Committee on Indemnities the Board adopted the following:

It has been and is the policy of the Board neither to claim nor to accept any indemnity for the life of missionaries. The Board believes that the wife and children of a missionary who has lost his life by violence in missionary service should be provided for under the same arrangements of the Church as in the case of missionaries who died from natural causes and that in all such cases it is the duty of the Church at home to seek to make its provision adequate to the need. Where a dependent wife or children are involved, it is the duty of the Board, as the representative of the Church, to initiate proper action, in cooperation with the Board of Ministerial Relief, and to see that any necessary provision is made for their support.

With regard to indemnity for property the Board believes that such indemnity may be valid when mission property is taken over by governments or destroyed by reason of the responsible remissness of governments, or when the circumstances are such that if it were a case of claim against the American government it would be recognized as right. At the same time the Board does not lay down any general rule but believes that each case should be carefully dealt with by itself with reference to Christian principles and to the effect of any action or non-action on the missionary cause. It would deprecate and refuse any indemnity which would be levied on the innocent or on the locality where the loss occurred in any way that might injure the Christian cause, and neither Missions nor Board should ever be involved in punitive actions, for which governments alone are responsible."

I think myself that this is a reasonable position unless one needs to take the absolute non-jurist position of our Menonite friends in Pennsylvania, who hold completely aloof from all political and civil affairs who will not exercise any of the duties or claim any of the rights of citizenship.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer

- 4 -

It is a dreadfully big and difficult question. I tried to clear my mind of it a little while ago in a paper, a copy of which I enclose, but I am not sure that instead of clearing it I muddied the waters still more. With the paper I send a copy of a letter written last year to Mr. Harold Hatch.

I am sending you under separate cover the Times Supplement with pictures of Lindbergh and also a paper that some one sent mother from Los Angeles which will show you the amazing types of religion that flourish in this country.

Patty and Carolyn were here to watch the Lindbergh parade from my window but Carolyn grew weary before Lindbergh came by. She had a tonsil operation the next day in which she behaved like a little soldier.

We are still guessing at your summer address so that I will send this, as I did my last letter, in duplicate, one copy to you at Yenching and one copy to Dr. Benschman asking him to forward it to you if he hears of your address in Japan.

With dearest love from all -

RES/3

June 27, 1927
(Dictated June 22)

Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street,
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Mig:

Your note with Mr. Appleby's very kind article in The Daily News was received yesterday. It is nice to have Mr. Appleby's friendly words and to have one's memory carried back to those days of long ago when Mary and I used to visit Mount Union. I see he says it was Mary who took me down. I should have felt indignant in those days at that suggestion.

I have written Charlie a letter enclosing a note to the Sunday School thanking it for the telegram which it sent out to the General Assembly. I hope to get out to Huntingdon some time this summer or fall or winter, although I don't see just now how I can arrange it this summer. What time I can get away from New York I want to spend with Emma and the children at our new home in Litchfield County, Connecticut. I think I must have written you that we sold the house in Englewood and not wanting to be without a home base somewhere to which the children could look and where we could retire in old age, we bought a nice old New England place with a lovely old white house and a barn and ice house and outside laundry and storehouse, with a boathouse on a lake, and as beautiful a view as you ever looked at, and ten acres of ground. Emma has been up there for a week or more getting things in order and Constance and I hope to go up at the end of this week. I shall leave Constance there while I go off on a speaking trip and then come back to spend the rest of July at least here.

Very lovingly,

RES/B

Mr. Speer

Mr. James Bailey

FILING DEPT.

455

JUN 30 1927

SECRETARIES

June 28, 1927

Mrs. James Bailey,
Church Road,
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Caroline,

I have been away since last Thursday- to Northfield and Lakeville and Syracuse, and have just received your note of June 22nd this morning. The Hoffmans have four children, the oldest 14 and the youngest 7. If you have any difficulty in getting any place for them let us know and perhaps we could find some place near New York. I am sorry that the Ventnor cottage will not be available as that is where I should think they would like most to be.

I spent Sunday with Emma and Constance and Billy at our new place at Lakeville. It is as beautiful and comfortable as it can be. You and Jim must surely come to see us there some time this summer. I know you will be charmed with it.

Thank you for your loving words about the Moderatorship. I did my best to escapt it, but it was really a very happy experience and though there were some anxious times I thoroughly enjoyed trying to help the Assembly through and, certainly, we did get through in the most wonderful way.

With dearest love to Jim and the children,

Ever affectionately yours,

RES:C.

FILING DEPT.

453

JUL 25 1927

SECRETARIES

July 13, 1927

Mrs. James B. Bailey,
Eaglesmere, Penna.

My dearest Caroline:

It was good to get this morning your note of July 7th. I trust that you and Jimmy are comfortably settled now at Eaglesmere. So glad you saw our new home at Lakeville only I wish I might have been there during your all too short visit. I hope you will come back again.

I do not have any expectation of getting to Eaglesmere this summer. I was to have gone to for the Student Conference but they made so many changes in their program that it seemed to me that I was not justified in taking the time. I am hoping to get most of August, however, to spend at Lakeville. I have gathered all the material for a biography of Dr. Ewing and need the month of August to put it in shape.

I am glad to know that a cottage at Ventnor was available for the Hoffmans. I just had a call from my cousin, Dr. J.H. Oribison, just home from India, and I believe they are expecting to be at Ventnor some time in the future.

I spent the afternoon of the Fourth of July at Lakeville and then went on the next day to the International Christian Endeavor Convention at Cleveland where there were 13,000 delegates. It was a really inspiring meeting and I never saw anything more beautiful than a demonstration the evening I was there on the part of the Girl Reserves. I shall be here now all of this month. I am speaking in the Fifth Avenue Church each Sunday. The Columbia summer school is open now and we had perfectly immense congregations yesterday. I do not think one could find congregations that are more worthwhile than these July congregations here. I suppose there will be 15,000 teachers or more at Columbia and the New York University.

With dearest love to Jimmy and all the children.

Ever affectionately yours,

FILING DEPT!

JUL 21 1927

455
SECRETARIES

July 19, 1927

Mrs. Charles L. Reed
234 Penn Street
Huntington, Pa.

My dear Mig:

I have been hoping that some chance of a summer visit to Huntington would emerge, but it has not appeared yet. I have been around speaking at all sorts of meetings, - but have settled down here now for a while with the hope of clearing up all accumulated correspondence. Last week the pile was so high and the city was so hot that I got desperate and gathered up everything and took Miss Connell of my office and went up to Lakeville to our new home there. In two days with greatest comfort, we succeeded in clearing off the things that were weighing on my mind most, and I came back Saturday night to be here for the Sunday services in the Fifth Avenue Church. It was very sultry, but is very much more comfortable today. I am glad of it as I have to go up on the noon train to speak at one of the conferences at Northfield to-night.

I hope that you and Charlie will be motoring into New England some time this summer when you can stop off and see us at Lakeville. It is a heavenly place that we have. About ten acres of ground on a sloping hillside covered with daisies, wild flowers, and great patches of yellow lilies and full of wild strawberries. The house is an old New England farmhouse, with a crane still in the diningroom fireplace, made over in the most comfortable and beautiful way. We have a big barn, an icehouse, and other out-buildings; a boathouse on the lake, a little orchard, a little grove of locust trees, and both elms and maples; two or three berry patches - blackberries and red raspberries, - and a most glorious view. Emma and the children are perfectly happy there. I have been up two or three times for a day at a time, and am hoping to get up for August and I want to finish a biography of Dr. Ewing.

I have been trying to lay off some of the foreign correspondence in order to be able to do this new General Assembly work. It is going to take me away from home most of the fall and winter, but Emma and I are planning to be away March and April attending the International Missionary Council meeting in Jerusalem and visiting our Syria Mission. If I can manage it we want to see Florence and Rome either going or returning.

We moved away from 52 Gramercy Park the first of June and I am living, in a very comfortable four-room apartment with two baths and a little kitchen, all by myself, at 24 Gramercy Park. It belongs to some friends who have gone to Mount Desert for the summer and invited us to use their apartment. It is a very nice house and Emma and I are thinking of taking an apartment in it for the coming fall. She is to come down tomorrow to see it.

Mrs. Charles L. Reed

-2-

July 19, 1927

I trust that you and Charlie and Charles are all well and am wondering whether you are out in the house on the Raystown Branch.

With a great deal of love -

RES-MAW

P.S. It looks now as if I would be coming out to Huntington the end of October to spend Sunday and Monday in Huntington and to speak Tuesday evening in Lewistown, Wednesday in Clearfield, and Thursday in Tyrone. I hope that Emma can come and that we can spend a whole week in Huntington, running over to these other places for the evening meetings.

FILING DEPT.

JUL 25 1927

455
SECRETARIES

July 20, 1927

Mr. Charles L. Huston,
Coatesville, Pa.

My dear Cousin Charles:

Some time ago before the meeting of the General Assembly you wrote us with regard to Mr. and Mrs. Chapin and conditions in China and quoted a statement from Fletcher Brockman to the effect that the Y.M.C.A. secretaries were all at their posts. I wondered whether Mr. Brockman could have meant to give this impression and wrote to them recently to ask. The following reply came from Mr. Charles A. Herschleb: -

"In Fletcher Brockman's absence from the office your letter to him of July 12th has come to me for reply. Those on our staff in China who evacuated their posts are the following: A.J. Allen, Manchang; W.W. Brockman, Soochow; W.P. Mills, Nanking; J.C. Oliver, Hangchow; W.R. Stewart, Taiyuan; and R.K. Veryard, Changsha.

"Word received a few days ago, however, states that Mr. Allen has been transferred to Hankow, to help the only secretary we have there who is Mr. A.M. Guttery. W. R. Stewart has been transferred to Kirin, Manchuria. W.W. Brockman is back in Soochow. J.C. Oliver had made two trips to Hangchow but had not yet moved his family there for residence. He was keeping in touch with the situation. R.K. Veryard had not returned to Changsha but was keeping close watch of the situation and will return at the earliest possible moment. We are inclined to think that Changsha will be closed to us for a longer period than any other city because this is the seat of the more radical element of the Nationalist movement."

I think the work of the Y.M.C.A. unfortunately has been just as much disturbed as that of any other agency and that in some respects indeed it may have suffered even more.

We may be sure, however, that all these disturbances will in time be left behind and I think the day will come when China will go just as much to excess in her call for and her reliance upon foreign help as she has recently gone in the opposite direction.

I am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of our Deputation Report on China and Japan. Conditions have changed, of course, very much

Mr. Charles L. Huston, July 20, 1927

since we were there last December but the fundamental and essential things continue, I believe, just the same.

I am afraid you may find the Report pretty heavy but it gives, I believe, an honest view of the issues in China and I hope that you may be able to find time to read this part of the Report:- page 82 - 140 and also page 280-294, 344-357 and 439-446.

If Emma were here she would want to send her warm regards to you all.

Very sincerely yours,

RES/V

FILING DEPT.

JUL 27 1927

455
SECRETARIES

July 26, 1927

Mr. Edward Bailey,
1517 North Front St.,
Harrisburg, Pa.

My dear Ed:

Emma has asked me to answer your letter about Dr. Thompson of Richmond. I am glad to do so. He is an excellent man. I don't believe you could get a better. I should be very much surprised if he would be willing to leave his present position, however, and take a local church again. I know he has been thought of by many in connection with one of the Chairs to be filled in Princeton Seminary. One's only question with regard to trying to get him for Harrisburg rises from the doubt as to whether as a rule it is not better for churches and pastors to fit together congregations and men with more nearly identical backgrounds. On the other hand, a great deal is to be said for the transfer of northern ministers to the south and southern ministers to the north. Many such transfers have been greatly blessed and I cannot think of any one either in the south or north who ought to be a more acceptable minister, preacher and pastor than Holliver Thompson.

I hear that there has been some thought in the Market Square Church of the availability of Dr. Downs. He would have many excellent qualities and would satisfy the conservative element in the Church, I think.

There is a young man named Ray Anderson in Wichita, Kansas, who is a treasure but some of the largest churches in the southwest have tried to get him and failed. He is doing an unusual work and fills a unique place in this western city.

I see from the last paragraph of your letter that you don't realize what a luxurious paradise Emma has developed at Rockledge. You will find no punkies, no mosquitoes, no hardships of any sort. You can sit on the veranda in a nice breeze and look at the loveliest view you ever saw all day long unless you want to go out on the lake or go driving or just for the sake of exercise take a scythe and cut about eight acres of hay that otherwise will go to waste.

Emma was down this week for two days. She has had a great deal of trouble with her feet because of fallen arches and at last is having some

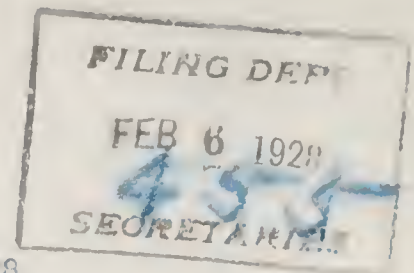
Mr. Edward Bailey, July 26, 1927

braces made which she hopes will help. She went back yesterday. I shall be here through the month but hope to get up for most or all of August and shall try to put in shape a memorial to Dr. Ewing.

very affectionately yours,

EEB/V

Dictated July 23



January 31, 1928

Mrs. Charles L. Reid,
234 Penn Street,
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Mig,

I was delighted to get your letter and to know that you were out of quarantine and rid of the troublesome erysipelas. How well I remember my attack many years ago when I was a small boy. Some of the incidents of that experience are among my most vivid memories. I am sorry you had such an ordeal to go through and trust that you are now going to get some real rest. I wish you an Cherley could come along on the trip to Jerusalem.

We had a lovely little visit from Aunt Clara here. I was only sorry that I had so little of it, because of absence on long trips south and west. On the southern trip I had a very happy day in Houston and a delightful afternoon with Bess North and her husband. I was glad to feel such absolute approval and confidence with regard to him.

I am very glad to know of Charles' happiness. I do not remember the Millers but shall hope to see Doris in due time.

It will not be long now before we are starting on a trip to Jerusalem and I shall be glad when we go on shipboard and start down the bay. The only trouble is there will be a group on the boat bound for Jerusalem, and we shall have unending conferences on the way.

On my last trip over the country I met a great many old Huntingdon County people. It is always good to have them come up and mention their names; one can almost always identify these old Central Pennsylvania names.

With dearest love from us all,

RFS:C.

FILING DEPT.

FEB 16 1928

455
SECRETARIES

February 14, 1928

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peking-est,
China.

My dear Larnie,

Mother thought you would be interested in the enclosed letters from Billy. I have just been writing him this morning with regard to the renewal of his drivers license. In Connecticut such licenses expire the last day of February. In spite of Billy's accident last September the State police told him that he was entitled to go right on driving. We had hoped that long before this the charge against him for reckless driving could have been heard and dismissed but the State police have asked each time for a postponement of the case because the driver of the other car has not been competent to testify. I had a very decent letter the other day from the State police office in Canaan, and I trust that the matter may be decided at the hearing that has now been set for April. Mother and I will, of course, be away then, but Elliott will come down and there is a very good lawyer from Waterbury who has the matter in charge. I trust the result may be Billy's complete exoneration. I wish you could see him now. He is taller than ever and he is certainly a very nice boy. His last report card showed that he had fallen down in his Latin and Greek and the masters say that that is simply because of the want of effort. His last letters are more encouraging and I hope he is going to end the year in good shape.

Our sailing date is only a fortnight away now. It will be a joy to get on the boat and to get into one's cabin and shut the door and sit down to rest. Except on railroad trains or in hotels I have had no chance whatever for quiet for weeks now, and it will be a fine experience to be able to sit down with a book free from care with no prospect of a meeting that has to be addressed the next hour. We are trying to get all arrangements made, including our vaccinations and inoculations. Patty's typhoid inoculation bowled her over completely, and she has had to lie by the last three days. She is quite chipper today however, and Aunt Helen Coleman is over. I listened to long telephone conversations this morning. Aunt Helen is coming to lunch and dinner, and I believe we are all to go to Tristram and Isolde to-night. Mrs. Finley has sent us some box tickets some millionaire friend having made a box available.

I have been on the road again steadily since I wrote you last. I spoke at the Presbyterian Social Union in Chicago on Friday, February 3rd, to a record breaking dinner at the La Salle Hotel. The next day I spoke at the Centennial of Lincoln's old church in Springfield, and then in Chicago at the University Church in the morning for Uncle Tim in the afternoon and the Sunday Evening Club in Orchestra Hall in the evening. On Monday evening I spoke to between eleven and twelve thousand people at a dinner of the Presbyterian Union in Pittsburgh, the largest they had ever had, and then at union meetings in Pottsville Tuesday evening and Reading the last evening.

I was sorry to miss dear old Mr. Snyder in Reading. He died a year or two

2/14/28

ago and I tried to pay a little tribute to him in what I said. It was nice to have a number of people come up afterwards and express their appreciation of what I had said about him. He was a very able man and a very good and true man. Men like him and Judge Schwartz are the salt that keeps our nation clean.

It was nice to see Fargo Stone and her two little boys in Chicago and Lilace Barnes asked especially after you. As I was going into Orchestra Hall to speak one of the ushers told me there was a gentleman who wanted to see me. He said that he used to play foot ball with me forty years ago. It turned out to be a man named Savage, who was captain of the Princeton foot ball team in the fall of 1886. He was then one of the most savage tempered and profane man I knew. But the grace of God has absolutely transformed him into a gentle, noble spirited, earnest Christian man. He is President of a bank in Chicago. It was beautiful to see him again and to feel the sense of sympathy and affection.

I had a good letter from Deacon the other day, too, full of love. One thanks God for the tenacity of such a friendship as his.

Aunt Mig is well over her crysipelas now. Aunt Clara writes that they have had their house done over entirely and it is very beautiful.

Mother gave me three pieces of very gay garment material to mail to you. I understood her to say that each of them was big enough for a dress. I have sent them to you by registered mail, together with some other footsies. The size of the dress material reminded me of a little poem I heard the other day.

Mary had a little dress
And it was light and airy,
It didn't show the dirt so much
But Oh! it did show Mary.

Week before last we had a run of dinners at the Presbyterial Social Union at the McAlpin one night, the Methodist Social Union the next night and our Board staff dinner at the Fifth Avenue Hotel the next night. When I was in Oklahoma a man gave me a little book of his poems and they were phenomena. I read one of them at the staff dinner. At the Methodist dinner, which was a farewell to Bishop Wilson who is now 70, Bishop Stires and I spoke, and Bishop Stires had a good story. He said a man was taking a short trip out of New York on a Pullman car, and when the portor came to brush him off he asked the portor what the average tip was on his run, which was not a very long run. The portor replied one do lar. The man thought this was a little high but, inasmuch as he had brought it on himself he was a good sport and handed the portor a dollar bill. At this the portor's eyes bulged out of his head and he remarked "Boss, I has been on his run for ten years and you am de fust gintleman what ever gimme the average." Dr. Sailer was telling me the other day of some book dealing with the idea of the average which ought to be very useful. Right here in our offices we have people who assume that average and majority are ideas that go closely together. I pointed out to one of them the other day that if one man got a salary of \$1000 and another a salary of \$2000, and another a salary of \$6000., the average salary of the three would be \$3000 but that only one third of the group got as much as the average salary. In our Church at large, a great deal is made of the average benevolence contribution, as though that represented what the great majority of our church people give. Of course, nothing of the sort is true. The average is secured by calculating in the great mass of people who give nothing. A small minority of our Church give as much as the average. If every body who now gives nothing, or gives less than the average, would give the present average it

Miss M.B. Speer, p3.

2/14/28

would result in a new average far above the present.

We are having a beautiful spring day today following a couple of days of rain. The amount of snow this winter has been almost negligible and thus far the ground hog is a fake. February 2nd was a beautiful day and he could not have failed to see his shadow unless he was blind and, yet, we have had mild weather ever since.

With dearest love from us all,

RES:C.

FILING DEPT

MAY 10 1928

455
SECRETARIES

May 9, 1928

Edward
Mr. ~~Edwin~~ Bailey,
Harrisburg, Pa.

My dear Ed:

I returned yesterday on the Majestic, having had a very comfortable but somewhat lonesome trip from Syria. I left Emma and Constance in Sidon with our friends the Fords who have a beautiful home there. The orange trees were in blossom and the nightingales were singing early in the morning, and Emma's room looked off over the orange trees and the blue waters of the Mediterranean.

I had been away from them about a week travelling in northern Syria and was glad to have luncheon with them on my way through from Beirut to Port Said.

Emma and Constance were expecting to go on from Sidon to Beirut and Tripoli and Aleppo and thence by rail to Constantinople for a visit with a friend. I enclose herewith copy of the itinerary and Emma's addresses so far as she was measurably sure of them. As you see there is no address after Budapest, but I imagine we shall hear from her in due time suggesting addresses in Paris and London and Edinburgh.

She wanted me to find out how you all were and to cable her. I am afraid from what I hear that there has been more sickness in the Cross family but I trust everybody is well now. Will you tell me what kind of a report I may send to Emma about your family and Mary's and Jim's?

I found a good letter here yesterday from Marnie telling of the visit of Annette and Alger in Peking where they all evidently had a very happy time together.

2027
I find your good note about the possibility of my coming over for a Sunday next October or November. I will try to arrange this and let you know shortly whether I can. Are there any Sundays in these months that are already arranged for.

I received this morning the enclosed letter from Dr. Hayes. What answer do you think I ought to return to it?

The Council meeting at Jerusalem was far better and more useful than I had anticipated that it could be and Emma and Constance and I all enjoyed Palestine and Syria far more even than we had anticipated.

With much love to all,

Very faithfully yours,

ECS/B

FILING DEPT.

MAY 21 1928

455
SECRETARIES

May 17, 1928
Dictated 16th.

My dear Fannie,

I got home safely on Tuesday, May 8th, and have been busy as a beaver ever since trying to catch up with accumulated work and to get ready for the General Assembly, for which I am leaving tomorrow evening. I am living alone in our apartment at 24 Gramercy Park with faithful Pizeh to take care of me. She keeps everything as spick and span as one could wish. She makes my bed and gets my breakfast and washes and mends, but I go out, of course, for luncheon and also for dinner.

Last Saturday afternoon I found that I could clear up everything that had to be done here so I packed up everything else in my bag, got enough food for several meals and went up to Rockledge. There is a bus between Millerton and Hartford which runs past our place, and when I got off, there were Elliott and Holly having a picnic on the grounds. They were motoring from Northfield to Poughkeepsie where Elliott was to preach at Vassar on Sunday. It was a cold spring evening and they were glad to come in and get thawed out before they went on. Our faithful man Blakeman had everything in beautiful order with clean cut lawns, the big hillside field full of wild flowers and the fruit trees in blossom. It was pretty lonesome in the house, but I had plenty of work to do, and Sunday morning I went over to the school and saw Billy and had dinner at the school, and later in the afternoon Billy came over to the house with me. It was the Saturday and Sunday of their Upper Middle dance, and Billy had a very nice girl named Kay Collins as his guest. He has grown bigger than ever. He is twice Kay's size, and I had actually to stand up on my tip toes to kiss him.

I had a letter from mother on Saturday, written from Beirut, indicating that they had changed their plans a little. They were still expecting to visit Mrs. Huntington at Constantinople, but were expecting to sail from Constantinople on the 10th or 11th for Naples. Yesterday was mother's birthday so I sent her a cable to Florence, and shall hope we may have some word soon of their safe arrival there.

I had a touching letter from Mr. Kano last week reporting the death of little Robert, my namesake, from tuberculosis. Mr. Kano says that just a few hours before his death Michi baptized him! That was a lovely touch, was it not?

Elliott was down last week for a night, and he and I went calling on Mrs. Schauffler, Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Cushman, and had dinner with Uncle Ned. They are having some difficulties in adjusting matters with Mr. Moody, and the Trustees were to have a meeting with Mr. Moody this week. I trust that everything can be worked out harmoniously.

We are hoping that there will be no disturbances in Peking in case the Nationalists come, and that you will be allowed to go on with your work undisturbed.

It has been sad to have all this mix up in Tsinanfu. I suppose in time we will get at the real inwardness of it, just as we did at Nanking, and will learn where the real responsibility lay.

Your letter telling of your summer plans came last week, and I forwarded to to mother. At that time you had decided you would go to Tsingtan. I presume all such projects are in abeyance now, and that after all you may have to go to Peitaiho or the western hills.

Guthrie Speers has accepted a call to the Brown Memorial Church in Baltimore, and Ted Speers is going to a very good church in Ytica.

I shall be gone in Tulsa for two weeks, and I do not know what the things are that shall befall us there. I hope that the spirit of Christ may prevail. I have written the opening sermon on Luke II: 45 "And they turned again to Jerusalem seeking Jesus." I could not think of a more appropriate text than that.

With dearest love,

RES:C.

FILING DEPT.
JUN 5 1928
SECRETARIES

June 1, 1928

Mr. Edward Bailey,
Harrisburg, Pa.

My dear Ed,

On getting back today I found good letters from Emma, posted in Naples, on May 16th. Evidently, as we surmised, they had come the whole way from Beirut to Naples on a boat of the Messageries Maritime Company. Among the letters was one to Elliott which Emma asked me to have copied and send copies to some of the family before posting it to Elliott. I enclose a copy herewith. Emma and Constance, as you will see, were going on to Rome and Florence, and then to Budapest, where the World's Y.W.C.A. Convention is to be held, June 8th to 18th. A friend was telling me this week of the beauties of the Hotel St. Gellert, where they are going to stay, and which is their post office address. He said it was all beauty and comfort with marble floors and baths and hot springs coming right up inside the hotel.

It was very nice to see you at the Assembly and to have the trip back with you. Thank you again for all your generous hospitality in the dining car, which has eased the charge on the Moderator's expense account, which I must now close out.

With much love to Elizabeth and George,

Ever affectionately yours,

R.F.C.

June 4, 1928
(Dictated June 2,)

Miss Constance S. Speer
Hotel St. Gellert,
Budapest, Hungary,

My dear Patty:

I got back from the General Assembly yesterday and was delighted to find mother's letter waiting at "24" indicating your safe arrival in Naples after the lovely trip which you had had on the Theophile Gauthier. I wish I could have been with you and I wish I could be with you now wherever you are. I suppose you are in Florence unless it got too hot and drove you up into Switzerland. A week from now you will be in Budapest and four weeks from today you will be sailing if you come on either the Aquitania or the Tuscania. I suppose the former would get into New York about July 6th or 7th and the latter on July 9th. I notice that on its May trip the Tuscania left Southampton Saturday, the fifth and got to New York on Monday, May 14th. The earlier your boat arrives the happier will your family be.

I have had no word from Marnie since the letters which I sent on to mother which I found here when I arrived on May 8th. There is no occasion for anxiety, however, I enclose some clippings from this morning's Times about China, from which you will see that everything seems to be quiet in Peking. I don't believe that the people out at the University will be disturbed in the least. If there is any danger that they may be they can be very easily moved, as I presume they would be, to the city where they will be under protection.

Please give these clippings to mother. As you will see from them and as we heard several days ago Paoingfu has been taken by the Nationalists and missionaries are all safe there. I have asked Dr. Scott where Henry and Jo are and he says they are in Peking. Marnie's letters stated that they were expecting to spend the summer in Tsingtau but I imagine the disturbed condition in ~~Tenghsien~~ and the congested condition in Tsingtau will have changed their plans.

A number of invitations to school commencements have come to you but I have not forwarded them. All regular letters for you and mother have of course been sent on. I imagine that you must have had quite a little pack at Florence and that there will be an accumulation also in Budapest.

I enclose herewith a map of London which I think will be of use to you if you get there. I had a similar map of Paris which was a regular life-saver to me there and which I sent on to mother after I left Paris.

Miss Constance S. Speer

- 2 -

June 4, 1928

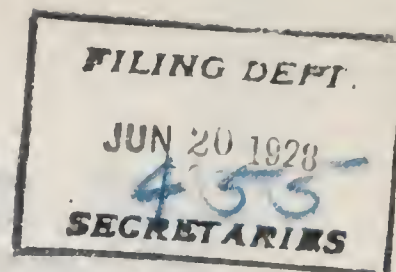
I may get up to Rockledge this afternoon. It depends a little on the weather which seems somewhat unsettled. Martins Garage was to have the car all in order for me and Blakey is desirous of showing me the garden. The last time I was up on Sunday, May 13th, everything was perfectly beautiful and the weather was ideal except that it was a little cold. Spring has been very late in New England.

Pisa keeps the apartment spotlessly clean. Yesterday morning when I got home she was airing and fumigating the closets closets and she had all of mother's cloaks and coats out airing them. I have been constantly on the go since returning and have had no time to really rest in the apartment until last night when I sat down and a good thorough time of peace, reading and writing.

Do take an hour off some time and write a letter to Billy and another to Marnie.

With dearest love,

RES/B



June 19, 1928

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peking West,
China.

My dearest Marnie,

The copies of "The Week in China" which you have ordered for mother, have begun to come. The issues of May 5 and 12th have been received. It is very interesting indeed to have these. It's good, too, to have them in such a convenient small size.

The last letter from Mother was dated Florence, June 3rd, and received this morning. She asked to have copies of it sent to you and Elliott and Billy as she had no time to write more. We still have no word as to the boat on which they will be coming. Before leaving America they had taken passage on the "Aquitania", but after we started Patty wanted to change to the "Tuscania", which is a single cabin boat sailing the same day but three days slower than the "Aquitania". When Mother last referred to the matter she did not know whether they would be able to make the change satisfactorily or not. In either case they will be sailing a week from Saturday and will be here in less than three weeks. It will be a joy to see them again. 24 Gramercy Park is as comfortable as can be but it is pretty lonesome when occupied by one's self.

Rockledge has been beautiful. I was there twice this spring and last night Aunt Vera Cushman telephoned that she had stopped on the way back from her thirtieth Class Reunion at Smith. She had got Billy at the school and taken him out to lunch, and had stopped at Rockledge and got some of the peonies and Iris which she said made the place look glorious. Everything is in fine shape, and I have just had new gravel put all over the drive and have arranged to have the house all cleaned and the screens in and everything ready for mother when she comes and wants to go up, which I imagine she will want to do as soon as possible, although in these days Patty has always to be consulted. I understand that mother and she have been trying to persuade Holly to let them have Caroline and Eleanor for the summer so that Elliott and Holly can go off for a good rest.

Billy has passed all his examinations for promotion to Senior Class at Hotchkiss, and is now working over College Board examinations. Elliott and Holly are coming down to Rockledge to spend Friday night there and then they and Billy are going together to the Preparatory School Conference at Blairstown, where Billy will be until June 28th, and then he will come in to stay with me until Mother and Patty return. I am looking up jobs for him here in the offices to keep him busy.

We had an all-day meeting of our Board yesterday at Uncle Ned's house in Englewood. It was a beautiful day and we had a very happy and

profitable time. I walked up at noon to see our old home. The place is in good condition except that the grass is worn with the children's games. Inside the house has been altered considerably, rooms having been thrown together for class rooms. It was very lovely and quiet, but I can understand mother's preference for Rockledge with its magnificent views and brightness.

The Messeroles who bought the Dwight Joneses place have not change it greatly. The children have a pony paddock in the north, just opposite out home, and they have a polo ground in the northwestern corner opposite Uncle Ned's. There were thousands and thousands of seventeen year locusts. They made a constant roar in the woods and the ground was full of holes from which they had emerged. These are the very children of the generation of locusts that brought Puck to his untimely end 17 years ago, or more.

Last Saturday I was in Detroit speaking at the National Baptists Convention and giving them an account of the Jerusalem Council meeting. Sunday I preached in the Marble Collegiate Church, morning and evening, and speak there again next Sunday. To-morrow is a special meeting of the Board of Directors of Princeton Seminary, to see if they can straighten out their troubles, as the last General Assembly admonished them that they must do.

Ed Pulling is getting married and indeed there has been quite a rivulet of wedding invitations and commencements coming in, which I have had to attend to, as far as they needed attention, in Mother's absence.

I am sending you under separate cover several copies of my General Assembly Sermon, in case you have any use for them.

We are kept informed by the Rockefeller Medical College here of their cablegrams from Roger Green. Dr. Scott reported the last one yesterday, in which Mr. Green reported that they had had their Commencement of the Medical School successfully, and that there was no occasion for any anxiety. We are wondering still, however, what you may be going to do this summer?

Aunt Clara and Aunt Peggy have been off motoring abit. Billy says that they stopped at the school one day when he was not in and Aunt Mig says that Aunt Clara has a new Cadillac from which she is getting great joy. I have not been in Huntingdon for some time, although I have gone through on the trains again and again, but usually at night.

It is encouraging to see the interest that everybody has in the reports of the Jerusalem Council meeting, and it is interesting to hear everybody who was there refer to it as the greatest experience of their lives. Mr. James Speers read a very good paper on the Council Meeting at the Board meeting yesterday, in which he referred to it in these terms.

With dearest love from us all,

Very

RES:C

FILING DEPT.

JUN 23 1928

455
SECRETARIES

June 20, 1928
Dictated 19th.

Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street,
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Fig,

It was good to get this morning your letter of Sunday. I had not heard before of Aunt Clara's new car but a letter from William this morning said that she and Margaret had called at the school while he was out. I hope they stopped to see our home at Rockledge, which is beautiful now with flowers. Emma's one great regret over this European trip is that she has missed the spring-time at Rockledge.

She and Constance were expecting to leave Budapest yesterday. They had been there attending the World's Y.W.C.A. Convention. They are expecting to sail on June 30th, but I do not know yet whether it will be on the "Aquitania" or the "Tuscania". They had second-cabin passage engaged on the "Aquitania" but were thinking of changing to the "Tuscania" which is a one cabin boat. When I came home some weeks ago it was second-cabin on the "Majestic" and one could not have asked for any better accommodations. It seemed to me absurd to pay twice as much for first cabin. I had a nice big room with a very acceptable room mate from Boston, who said his prayers and was very happy when he saw me say mine. We had as good food and as nice a saloon and deck space as one could wish. Of course, we had only about one-fifth of the capacity passenger list, and that made a great difference.

I have been having a busy time ever since coming home with the General Assembly and College Commencements and a great many addresses on the Jerusalem Council Meeting, in which people are tremendously interested everywhere.

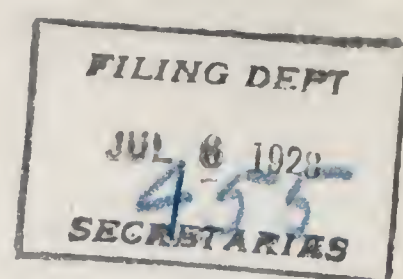
Billy has taken some more of his college board examinations this week, and is coming down the end of the week for the Y.W.C.A. Preparatory School Conference at Blairstown, and then he will come to be with me and do some work in our offices until Emma and Constance return.

I trust Charlie had a good time at Minneapolis, and that you and he are both well and may have a very happy summer. If you go motoring any time in the direction of Lakeville I hope you will not fail to stop at Rockledge.

With a great deal of love to you all,

Yours affectionately,

RES-C.



June 28, 1928

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear,
Yenching University
Pe'ing, China

My dear Marnie:

Tuesday evening when I went home to 24 Gramercy Park I found a letter from mother stating that they had changed their plans somewhat - that she and Miss Clara Reed were sailing on the Mauretania on June 23rd, leaving Patty to come later with some other friends on the Tuscania, sailing June 30th. I had sent a great load of mail to mother at Southampton to be ready for on the 30th when she had planned to come. I am afraid she will have missed all of this but it will be great to have her home again. The Mauretania is due tomorrow and Billy will probably be home then from the Preparatory School Summer Conference which he has been attending in Blairstown, and I have a pass in my pocket for him and me to meet the boat. We will have 24 Gramercy Park all in spic and span order for her and Rockledge also. Blakeman has everything in fine shape outside and he and the housecleaner were to get everything in perfect order inside this week.

Mother has evidently had a very interesting and happy time at Budapest. She writes of her very special joy in the Bible Study group of which she had charge.

A good fat letter addressed in Augusta's handwriting to mother came the other day. I have not opened it as it was addressed to her but it seemed to me that the handwriting of the letter which one could see through the envelope looked more like yours than Augusta's. It is good to have comforting word about conditions and to know that Dr. Stewart arrived in time for the Commencement, and that you have been undisturbed.

Do you have with you in China your Englewood Building and Loan book? Your book and Patty's and Billy's have all matured and the funds need re-investing. Mother has Billy's and Patty's books but she does not know where yours is. The Building and Loan Association requires that they should be turned in.

You will have got cable reports regarding the Republican Convention. The Democratic Convention is now in session. It seems to be a good deal livelier than the Republican. The Democratic Convention was opened by a good old-fashioned rip-snorting, blood-curdling indictment of the weakness and corruption in the political knavery of the other party. One would judge from the newspaper accounts that there is little doubt of Smith's nomination. If so I shall vote for Hoover. Dr. Finney of Baltimore, a life long Democrat, tells me that he will do the same and that he hears all his friends expressing the same purpose.

I enclose a clipping from the Times giving the text of the proposed new draft of the Anti-War Treaty.

With dearest love,

FILING DEPT.
MAY 10 1929
257
SECRETARIES

May 1, 1929

Mrs. William McMurtrie Spear
P. O. Orangeburg,
Rockland County, New York

My dear Margaret:

I was in Huntington Monday speaking at a missionary meeting in the evening. I took a glorious ride during the day with Aunt Clara and Big and Charlie. We drove 225 miles through the loveliest country of South Central Pennsylvania.

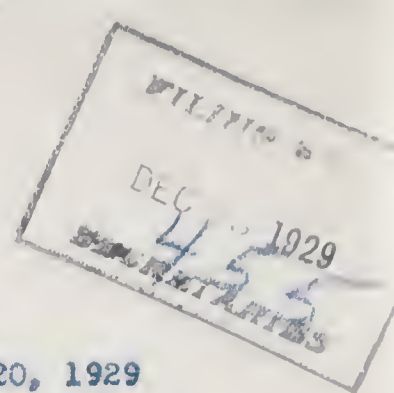
In several places I saw the trailing pink growing wild and I wondered whether we could not make it grow on our place at Lakeville. Aunt Clara told me that you had a great deal of it and that you had given her some to plant. Do you think it would flourish at Rockledge or is it too cold there in the winter. If you think it could be transplanted what would be the time of year to do it? Could we get some plants from you?

It must be beautiful at Piermont now. It certainly was lovely in Pennsylvania. The woods were full of Judas Trees in bloom and the wild cherry and crab apple and the apple orchards were in blossom.

With much love to all,

Very affectionately,

WMB/B



December 20, 1929
Dictated Dec. 17th.

Mrs. Charles L. Reid
234 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dearest Wig:

I was very sorry to hear from Aunt Clara that you are laid up in bed. I hope you are having a real rest, however, and that you may be all right for Christmas. Perhaps what you need is to go off for a few weeks in a Sanitarium. If so, I recommend Clifton Springs. I went there myself a couple of weeks ago just for a thorough overhauling in the Clinic with results greatly to my comfort and confidence as I look forward to the next thirty-eight years in order to round out a full century. It is a very nice place and they are thoroughly efficient. You would get the best of diagnosis and treatment and care and would come back a new woman, with your skirts whatever the proper length may be at that time. Indeed, the skirt seems to be the essential article of dress nowadays. I read a newspaper account not long ago of a wedding in which it was stated that the bride was attired in a beautiful bouquet of flowers and with an embroidered skirt. I trust the bouquet was large enough to supply all the apparent deficiencies of the costume.

Your box and a package from Charles have come and will be kept for Christmas time. Billy and I won't promise to open them on Christmas Day, however. We may do it the day before as we are expecting to go up to Northfield on Tuesday afternoon to spend Christmas with Elliott and his family. Billy gets home from college tomorrow. He has a number of evening engagements.

Mama and Constance sailed on Saturday at midnight and it reminded me of the time we saw Aunt Clara on her ship last Spring only the Bremen, on which Mama and Constance sailed, left from a dock way over in the outskirts of Brooklyn. I think the ship is too big to bring around to the docks in the North River.

I trust Charlie is all well of his throat infection and that you and he will both be up and about with full vigor for Christmas day.

I was sorry to hear of the death of the last of the McNamaras. I remember them well and their faithfulness in the Episcopal Church.

I received today blanks from the National Cyclopaedia of American Biography to fill out with regard to Will. This is really a monumental piece of work that is going to be done, and I am delighted that they are going to include Will's biography. I have sent the blanks to Margaret for her to fill out as far as she can and I will supplement it as best I can.

With warm love to you and Charlie for a happy Christmas,
Your loving,

RES/d

DEC 23 1929
SECRET

December 20, 1929
Dictated Dec. 17th.

Mrs. William McM. Speer
R. F. D. Grangeburg
Rockland County
New York

My dear Margaret:

I have received the enclosed communication from the Editorial Department of the National Cyclopedic of American Biography. This is a great work and we must do the best we can to provide adequate material for the biography of Will. I will do all that I can to answer these questions, but will you not supply whatever you can? Perhaps it might be better if you would not write on the blank but would write on a separate paper numbering your answers to correspond with the questions on the blank, then please return the enclosed with whatever you have written and I will supplement it as best I can.

Do you have the newspaper articles that appeared at the time of Will's death? If so I can have copies of them made. The best sketch that I have seen is the one in the Yale Necrological Record. I have a copy of this but I think it is at Rockledge. Do you have one at Piermont? I can fill up the genealogical requirements although there are no nine generations of paternal American ancestors. We could furnish some six or seven or more of maternal ancestors.

Emma and Patty sailed on the Bremen last Saturday night to spend the holidays in Edinburgh. They are coming back on the same boat due here about the 8th or 9th of January. Billy and I will be comforting one another. He comes up from Princeton tomorrow and has a number of evening engagements until next Tuesday when we will go up to Elliott's for Christmas Day, then we shall probably come back for Sunday and New Year's Day at Rockledge. If we can work in a trip to Piermont at any time we will certainly do so and will let you know in advance.

Ever affectionately yours,

RES/d
Enclosures 2.

February 11, 1930
(Dictated February 10)

Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street,
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Mig:

I have just been writing to Aunt Clara about Peggy's wedding. I saw Margaret and Ella in Englewood yesterday morning at the Englewood Church in which I was speaking. Margaret said she had telephoned to Aunt Clara about the wedding. Emma and I were very glad to be there and to help start the children off on what I hope may be a happy and useful life together. He is in the financial report department of a banking house down town and seems to be a pleasant, gentlemanly sort. His sister has been one of Peggy's closest friends for a long time.

I received some time ago a request from the editor of the American Cyclopaedia of Biography for material with regard to Will. I gathered together a great deal of information and trust that the editor may write up an adequate sketch. Among the documents which I sent was a very satisfactory sketch published in the Yale Obituary Record. I enclose a copy of this herewith.

I trust that you and Charley are both well and that you have some help in the house now. We have had a very good winter except that Emma has had trouble with her right knee and foot. I have to go to the Pacific Coast for the month of March and am arranging for Emma to go up to Clifton Springs then to see what they can do for her there. With this exception she has been very well this winter. She and Patty had a fine holiday in Edinborough.

With dearest love to Charley and Charles and yourself,

RES:B

FILING DEPT
MAY 11 1930
455
SECRETARIES

April 30, 1930

Miss Ella Fost Spear,
A.F.L.,
Orangetown,
N.Y.

My dear Ella,

It was lovely to get this morning your good letter written on Sunday. It was a delight to see you and your mother at the Easter service in Englewood and Billy and I carried very contentedly home with us the box of delicious home-made candy which we proceeded temperately to devour. But even with the temperate consumption the box was soon emptied.

It was nice to see such a fine congregation that beautiful morning and many kind responses have come.

I wish we might have gone home with you after the service. You may be sure I will come up whenever I can make it possible to do so to take that ride with you over the back country roads that you spoke about.

Aunt Emma went to Detroit last Thursday to the National Convention of the Y.W.C.A. so I went up Friday night to Rockledge and had two glorious days there. Most of Saturday I spent on building a stone wall and filling in the dirt behind it for a garden for our perennials. Building a stone wall is a long job however and I have several days of hard work ahead.

Your mother will be glad to know that the mountain pink which she sent last year and which I planted is coming up in many places where I had scattered it. I hope it will spread and find an abiding home. It came up white however and not pink.

With dearest love to you all,

Your affectionate,

RFS:C.

FILING DEPT
JUN 18 1930
SECRETARIES

June 18, 1930

Mrs. Charles A. Reed,
234 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Sir:

You will be glad to know we have another little grand-daughter born in the Booth Memorial Hospital near Gettysburg yesterday.

Elliott came in a little while ago to see the boys. He wasn't sure what name they would give the baby but he thought it would be Margaret Ladd. Caroline and Eleanor are with him. He says they will stay with her through the month and on into July until they can rejoin Molly. She will be in the hospital for a fortnight or so and then is planning to go over to Glen Summit, Pa., to be with Mr. and Mrs. Wells.

Patsy is off on a yachting trip now with some friends and Billy, I think, gets through at Princeton tomorrow. He has been rowing in the Freshmen Crew all spring and they have been undefeated. They are going to have their stiffest test this afternoon, however, against the Navy and the University of California Freshmen. They beat the Navy Freshmen the last time they rowed them. I see the paper this morning says that they are the victors for the race this afternoon. It will be a fine thing if the boys can win this victory also. They will be about the only athletic representatives of Princeton this year who have been undefeated.

I don't know when I can get out to Huntingdon for a day. Things are very busy here and I ought to get back to Lakeville occasionally to lend a helping hand there. I was there a week ago but I wasn't able to get back for one or two or perhaps even three weeks.

I sent Aunt Clara a letter from the ship with a photograph of his wife and daughter which you will be interested to see.

I am sorry to hear of Mrs. Orndy's death and am wondering whether this will make any change in Edith's plans and whether she will go back to Bryn Mawr.

I had a very nice visit to Gettysburg a fortnight ago. Miss Cunningham Leavers and her mother the old friends and it is a pleasure to be in their home and to feel the kindness of their welcome. Like the men in the Lutheran Theological Seminary also are always enjoying going there to speak at their ministerial conferences which they hold in the spring.

Mrs. Charles E. Reed,

- 2 -

June 14, 1930

I am glad of our contacts with the various denominations in Huntington in the old days. It is very helpful in meeting men of the other denominations in the conferences of today.

I am sorry that Charlie has so many extra loads to carry and am glad that Charles is going to have a little easier summer with a shorter week.

With warm love to you all,

RMS:B

July 14, 1930



Mrs. Charles E. Reed,
234 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Mig:

Your good letter of July 11th is just received. It must have crossed my letter to you telling you of Patty's trip to Scotland and of Marnie's expected arrival. Emma telephoned me last night that a telegram had come from Marnie reporting that she had reached Seattle and was leaving Saturday evening and was due in New York at eight o'clock Wednesday morning. What a joy it will be to see her again. Billy was trying to arrange to meet her in Chicago so that they could come on from there together, but I am afraid he will not be able to get there in time. If Marnie comes in Wednesday morning I will go up with her that evening to Lakeville and will have Thursday and Friday there. I have to be here on all the Sundays this month in connection with the services in the Fifth AVenue Church, where we are having very good congregations made up almost entirely of students at the summer schools of the Universities here, and other summer visitors.

Holly is still with her father and mother but is planning to go back to Northfield some time this month. She had been thinking of going back about the middle of the month and I suspect will be going sometime this week, although I am not sure. Her address just now is care of Henry H. Welles, Glen Summit Springs, Mountain Top P.O., Luzerne County, Pa.

Elliott has been with her this past week. He came down on Wednesday night to see Patty off on the Cameronia on Thursday. Holly's address in Northfield of course is just East Northfield, Mass. Perhaps it would be best to send anything for her there as it would be held for her in case she had not already arrived.

Thank you very much for sending the clipping regarding Will Graffius. I have the most kindly memories of him and of his friendship. Many a hunting trip we took together in the old days. He and Landis Steele had the most wonderfully keen eyes for game of any people I ever knew. I remember Will's shooting a beautiful big owl which I couldn't see at all. I remember, too, a wonderful rabbit hunting trip we had on the hills back of the Reformatory Reservoir. He and Toddy Fleming and Landis Steele and Warren Simpson were my usual hunting companions and what memorable trips we did have together in days that will never come back again.

If the autobiographical sketch referred to in The Daily News is ever discovered and printed, please remember to cut it out for me.

July 14, 1950

I am glad you have Charles with you and he has such happiness in his home visits and in bringing his friends home with him. I am glad also that Charley's burden has been lightened somewhat through the sale of the store building.

The last three or four days have been very comfortable pleasant days here but on the real hot days though I can keep comfortable in my office with the windows open on both sides and the fan going, and also in our apartment, which is exceedingly comfortable with draught through from north to South, nevertheless the street when one goes down into it is just like a burning furnace.

At Rockledge everything is perfectly delightful: even in the hottest weather there are comfortable breezes and green things and their fresh pleasantness all around.

With dearest love to all,

RES:B

Postscript:

I have just received the announcement of the death of Mr. Appleby of Mount Union. The card comes from the children, but I do not know their names. Could you let me have the name of the oldest so that I could write to them. Mr. Appleby was one of my oldest friends and every now and then I would hear from him and always there was some affectionate word.

455
1930
SECRETARIES

July 13, 1930

My dearest Patty,

Marnie got in safely this morning. She had arrived in Seattle last Saturday morning and spent the day there, leaving on the evening train, on the Milwaukee Road. Her train this morning got in a little ahead of time. It was fortunate that I was there bright and early. I found her on the platform, although the Pennsylvania Station is a dreadful place to meet anybody coming in. We came right down to the apartment where she had her breakfast and shortly after Augusta came in and I left them there a few moments ago. She was going to call up Peggy Barnes and then coming over here at noon, and we will go out on the afternoon train to Lakeville. We called up mother on the telephone this morning. She said that the Dutchess people had come over for the open car and would have it greased and waiting for us at the train.

Mother had been hoping that she (Marnie) and Bill could make connections in Chicago but, evidently Billy could not get there in time from the Grand Canyon, where they were on Sunday. I suppose he will get here later today or perhaps tomorrow and will then have a few weeks at Rockledge before he goes up to be with the Rockefeller boys in August.

Marnie is looking very well except for a few face marks which troubled her once before, you remember, and of which we will get her rid through sunshine and Mr. Wagner's milk at Rockledge.

Mother writes that the steamer letters which were sent to you to the "Cameronia" came back. Perhaps she will have sent them on. She sent me your letter from the steamer and also a letter from Oda, written a few days before Aunt Margeret's death.

You are well across the middle of the Atlantic now, and I trust that you are having a very comfortable voyage, and that you will find all well in Edinburgh.

I forwarded a letter to you this morning, and enclose herewith one which came today from George whom, of course, you will have seen long before this reaches you.

We have been having beautiful weather since you left. One or two nights were really cool. Today it is beginning to warm up.

With dearest love from all,

RES:G.

October 2, 1930

Mrs. Charles E. Reed,
254 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dear Mig:

Your letter with reference to the possibility of a visit in New York next week from Charles is just received, and I shall be delighted to see him if he is here. I expect to be here on Monday but shall be in a meeting of our Board during the afternoon. Tuesday and Wednesday I have to be out of town but Thursday and Friday I shall be here until four o'clock Friday afternoon when I have to go to Chicago. I have a meeting Friday morning at 9:30, and another one, I presume on Thursday afternoon. I expect to be here each evening with the exception of Tuesday and Marnie and I would be delighted to have Charles come and take dinner with us. If he will call me up on the telephone as soon as he gets to the city we can arrange some mutually convenient time of meeting. My office telephone is Watkins - 8191, and our home telephone is Gramercy 1677.

Thank you very much for the issue of the Huntingdon News containing the sad account of the burning of the old bridge. It was one of our oldest landmarks and I am sorry that it is gone. There was a wonderful old camel back covered wooden bridge across the Susquehanna at Harrisburg some years ago which was also burned. It has been replaced by a wonderful new bridge, however, and I trust that we may have a new one in due time in Huntingdon.

I came back from Lakeville last Sunday night and shall not be able to return, I am afraid, until a day or two before Patty's wedding, on Saturday the 25th. Aunt Clara writes that she is afraid she will not be able to come, but it will be a great pleasure if you and Charlie and Charles could come. It would be a beautiful drive over from Huntingdon. You could make it in one day with a little pressure, or very easily indeed in a day and a half.

Patty was down yesterday for the day but is going back this afternoon. Marnie and I are here together and Emma will come down after the wedding.

I had a beautiful month at Rockledge. Our gardens, both the flower garden and the vegetable garden, could not have been surpassed, and we are planning to have still more beautiful flowers next year. We put in a number of new trees also and will be planting this fall and next spring a number more - pine and maple and ash and birch and sumac.

With dearest love to you all,

Chas. E. Rees Jr.

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICE SCHENECTADY, N.Y.



East Lake Road
ERIE, PA.

October 28, 1930

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Uncle Rob:

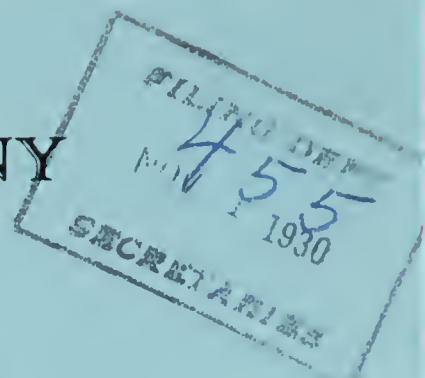
[It was very kind indeed of you to forward Mr. R. I. Rees's letter of the 15th to Mr. Bulkley, together with Mr. Bulkley's comments. Superficially it might appear as if our efforts had all gone for naught, but I am happy to report that the whole affair has had a very unexpected and successful outcome.]

In the first place, I had several very valuable talks with Mr. Rees's associates which led to contacts in other companies in New York and Philadelphia. In talking with these men I obtained some very much worth while vocational guidance which helped me materially to decide just what sort of work I ought to pursue.

As a result of this I returned to Erie, talked the whole matter with the plant officials, and applied for work in our production department. Coupled with my own efforts, an unexpected opening developed whereby I have entered the office of the Production Manager in a position which promises to lead directly to the assistancy and has a bright future and unlimited possibility for growth and development. This all came about so suddenly that it fairly took my breath away and I have not yet become fully accustomed to it all.

I am very grateful to you for the great help you were in obtaining the interviews which I feel played such a large part in getting into this new job.]

I was sorry that it was not possible to see more of you and also that so much of the time we did have together was taken up with business affairs. I should have liked to hear more about the plans for Patty's wedding, which I trust passed off very successfully. It was too bad that more of us could not attend, but our end of the family seemed to be tied down too closely to get away at



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GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

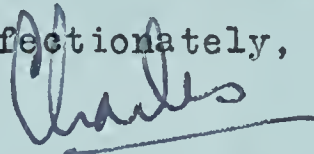
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the appointed time. It will be good to hear more about it, which I hope we shall do.

I'm afraid that when I was in New York I was so preoccupied with other things that I failed to tell you of my engagement to Barbara Brumbaugh of Huntingdon, the oldest daughter of Professor Harvey Brumbaugh of Juniata College, and a cousin of our late former-governor. No definite date has been set for the wedding but we are hoping it will be sometime during the coming year.

It was very nice to have seen Elliott and Marnie, especially as it had been some years since our last time together. Please give my love to all the family.

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles", with a horizontal line underneath it.

CHARLES L. REED, JR.

OFFICE OF PRODUCTION MANAGER

FILED
455
NOV 1 1930
SECRETARIES

October 30, 1930

Mr. Charles L. Reed, Jr.,
Office of Production Manager,
General Electric Company, East Lake Road,
Erie, Pa.

My dear Charles,

I was glad to get this morning your good letter of October 28th telling with regard to the happy arrangement with your new work in connection with the General Electric Company. Your mother had already mentioned it in her letter. I am reporting what you have written to Mr. Bulkley because of his very friendly interest. I think it would be a nice thing if you would write to him at some time telling him again of your appreciation of all of his kindness.

I trust the new work may turn out even more happily than you can anticipate, and that it may lead on to steady advancement.

The wedding went off very happily in spite of bad weather. Aunt Margaret, Peggy and Ella came up and a good company of friends from New York and elsewhere. The beautiful old church in Salisbury was an ideal place and our little home proved to be altogether adequate for the wedding company that assembled after the ceremony in the church.

Patty and Bob went off by automobile and just now are at Westtown, Penna., in the old Quaker Inn there known as the Farm House.

I am delighted to send you hearty congratulations on your engagement to Barbara. Your mother had mentioned this also in her letter. Aunt Emma and the children will all rejoice with you in your happiness. Patty and Bob will be especially full of congratulations. I am glad to know that the wedding is not to be too far away. I shall certainly hope to be there to join in the happiness and the blessing.

Aunt Emma is still at Lakeville, but I think will be coming down tomorrow. She and the children would want to join in sending warmest love and best wishes.

Ever Affectionately yours,

RFS:C.

December 3, 1930
(Dictated 5th.)

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour,
2 Glencairn Crescent,
Edinburgh, Scotland.

My dearest Patty,

I received a nice letter yesterday from Brother Jacob Spafford in Jerusalem enclosing a coin for you. His letter was in two parts. I enclose the general part and also the coin. You will write to him, will you not?

The rest of his letter had to do with the legal troubles they have been having in the American Colony, but they seem to feel that they have pretty well escaped from them now.

Mother received this morning some Christmas checks from Uncle Ed, including one for \$25 to you, which she will be forwarding to you.

Yesterday evening when I got home I found the apartment full of ladies inspecting a sale of dresses which Miss Bagley was conducting. I left my bag and filed to the streets and tramped up and down with the rest of the unemployed thinking of the comfort and prosperity of the rich and looking for a nice soft curb stone to sleep on. By the time I had walked holes in my stockings I ventured back and found the ladies gone, except Miss Bagley who was staying for dinner.

We sent you full accounts of the Princeton-Yale game, which was glorious. It was by the narrowest margin that Princeton failed to win; she outplayed Yale in the most unmistakable way. Murnie went the next week with Elliott to the Yale - Harvard game, where Yale seemed to have had a broken spirit. There has been an enormous publicity given to foot-ball this fall. One's hope is that it is growing so common and familiar that interest in it will begin to decline. Certainly the thing is overdone now.

We had a very happy Thanksgiving and weekend at Rockledge and hope to get back again at Christmas time. Mother would like to go up to Northfield over Christmas Day, where we would stay at the hotel this year; we would be altogether too big a calvalcade to descend on Holly.

We have had very up and down weather, Indian summer and Arctic regions alternating. Just now it has moderated again and I think we shall have rain.

We think of you and Bob always. With thanks & love,

RECEIVED
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SECRETARY

December 17, 1930

Mr. Edward Bailey
1517 North Front Street
Harrisburg, Pa.

My dear Ed:

Emma has written to you to thank you for your generous Christmas checks and I want to add my word of grateful appreciation. What a great thing it would be if some day we could have a grand Christmas celebration of the entire family connection but I presume that will never be possible.

Emma is endeavoring to arrange to get to Pittsburgh for January 3th for George's wedding and I will come with her if it is at all possible. I cannot yet be sure whether I can get away as I have two engagements for that day that would have to be transferred.

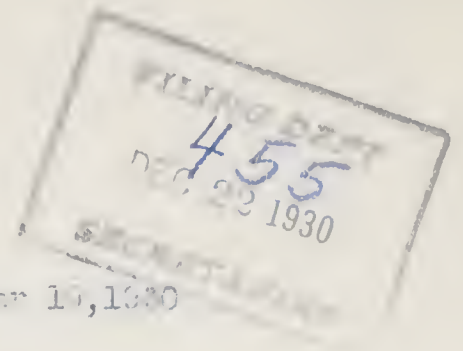
I am sending you under separate cover a little booklet entitled - "Pioneer Days in Arkansas," written by a dear old friend of mine. I think you and Elizabeth will enjoy every word of it. One evening before Mrs. Kennedy's death when Emma and I were there for dinner I read the first chapter of the book and she was so pleased with it that we read it all through from first to last. I have urged Dr. Chester to write a much fuller book about these earlier days in this old Scotch-Irish community in Arkansas and also about his memories of reconstruction times.

Mailed
Dec 17
1930
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With much love from us all,

Ever affectionately

RES:B



December 19, 1930

Mr. Edward Bailey,
Harrisburg, Pa.

My dear Ed,

Thank you very much for your note of yesterday with the enclosed check toward Marnie's support. I enclose herewith our Treasurer's acknowledgment.

Marnie is very much better than she was when she arrived. She was pretty thoroughly tired out then but begins to look and act like her old self.

Emma tells me that she has arranged to get to George's wedding. I am still not clear as to whether I can get away. I shall probably have to be in Pittsburgh on the morning of the 9th and I have two engagements for the 8th and am not sure yet whether I can be released from them.

Billy got home last night from Princeton for his Christmas vacation, and we are all going up to Northfield next Tuesday for Christmas Day with Elliott and his family.

Ever affectionately yours,

MS:C.

December 15, 1930

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour,
2 Glencairn Crescent,
Edinburgh, Scotland.

My dearest Patty:

We received this morning the good letters from you and Bob from Morar. How I wish we could have been with you both on the motor trip and at Morar. Mother was all stirred up by the letters and gave me yours to bring over to the office to have copied for Elliott and Billy.

It would be glorious to be where one could have such experiences. I should like nothing better than to spend my closing days roaming around England and Scotland. I have plans also to spend them in Persia, Florida and South America and Syria. My only fear is that there may not be enough closing days to go around.

Mother and Marnie went to Calvary yesterday morning and then to dinner with Uncle Ed and Aunt Lucy and then to call on Miss Davison and her dear pussy-cat. Then we spent the evening together reading and writing in the comfort of our big living room.

You will be sorry to hear of the death of dear Dr. Alexander. He had been at Prayer meeting Wednesday evening as usual and then gone home and complained of feeling ill. The four doctors who were with him the next day could not determine just what was wrong but he died quietly just after midnight last Friday morning. The newspapers have had most beautiful notices of him and the services in the First Church yesterday were both memorial services. In the Church of the Ascension, just a block away, Dean Robbins spoke of him in the most beautiful way. Our Board will meet this afternoon and we shall all go down to the funeral at four o'clock. His only surviving relatives are three nieces and one nephew. The body will be taken up to his old boyhood home at Charlton, between Schenectady and Saratoga.

Mrs. Doffin and Augusta Wagner came to luncheon on Saturday and went with mother and Marnie in the afternoon to hear the English singers. I staid home listening to the Army and Navy Football game over the radio and worked on some papers for the Board and then went up to Albany where I had to speak yesterday morning in the oldest Church in the city - the old Dutch Church that goes back to Colonial days.

Billy will be home Wednesday or Thursday for the Christmas holidays. He and I expect to go to the English singers next Saturday afternoon. Our present plan is to go up to Northfield on December 23rd and stay at the Hotel over Christmas.

I am sending you under separate cover a pamphlet which Dr. Goddard sent me containing his survey of the Congregational Churches in the Litchfield Northwest Association. It fills the whole pamphlet from page 5 to 17. You will find a great deal in it to interest and amuse.

Mailed
Dec 15/30
S. B. C. B.

I sent you the other day a Sash print with the blue palm trees and the white background on which you had set your huey and I sent Bob a book on "General Robert E. Lee." I hope these will reach you safely by Christmas time.

With dearest love from us all,

SES:B

STATION HOTEL

MOFAR
(Inverness-shire)

November 30.

Dearest Parents:

How you would love this place - for different reasons! But you would both love it.

Father, because it's miles from everywhere. The road ends at Hallsig, three miles from here. There are trains, but only three a day; few people come here. One can walk and walk; There are mountains to climb and moors to walk over. Glorious solitude in the most beautiful country. It's indescribably beautiful.

Mother, because of the almost unearthly beauty of it. The color yesterday would have been almost unbelievable if we hadn't seen it oneself. From the moment when we first looked out of the window yesterday morning at blue islands, a pink sky behind them and watched the sun slowly change them from a more earthy, but equally wonderful color, to when we walked back in the moonlight from Arisdig and saw everything only in gray's the day was perfect. The sunset, when the sea was green and the hills blue and purple, and the woman in the wee white cottage below us was singing. The colors are your colors. I'd love to bring you here and see you soak it in. It's pure beauty.

Today the beauty has been different, the sky's been gray and the colors have been soft, grays and browns, harmonious and blending.

Friday, Saturday and today have been days to remember forever. They're the perfect honeymoon. No colds to ear the days - as there was at Easttown -; no slight strangeness in being married, a feeling that we're settled in Edinburgh. There is nothing we really have to do; and we are just soaking in beauty.

Friday afternoon one began to feel that one couldn't take in much more beauty. Leaving Edinburgh in the morning things rose out of a winter mist - trees appeared like shadows and the heaths in the fields seemed unreal. Then there was frost outlining every leaf and blade of grass with a fairy-like delicacy. There was a loch, still as a mirror, reflecting the glory of the mountains around it. Then on to Ben Neck, wild, and almost incomprehensible in its size and grandeur. Mountains, clouds, snow-clad peaks bits of blue sky, a loch.

It is impossible to describe. One can only look back on it and fixed in one's memory and thank God for having let one see it for a year given and the experience of a day like that.

Yesterday was another such experience - one of color, as well as mass.

One day we'll show them to you.

Now to bed.

Goodnight, and God bless you.

(Signed) Patty.

December 25, 1939
(Dated December 22,)

Mr. Robert F. Harbour,
2 Clonsairn Crescent,
Edinburgh, Scotland.

My dearest Paddy:

I have just been working through a folder of unanswered letters on my desk and see I never acknowledged your letter of November 20th, with Bob's addition, which enclosed "The Poet's Own Corner," and some precious epitaphs. I will add these carefully to my collection which is not quite empty. But there are as good fish in the sea as have ever been caught and some day I think I may just go a-roaming looking for epitaphs and nothing else, except scenery.

We have been glad to get your letters about the highland trip and not about your motoring in fog and snow hither and yon. I trust you are having a little respite from all this or that you will get it as soon as Christmas time is past.

Thus far we have had practically no snow here in New York. We had a good snowstorm at Rockledge when we were there at Thanksgiving time and we are hoping we may have some at Northfield on Christmas.

Mother and Marnie and I went to the Christmas sermon and carols yesterday morning at the First Church where Dr. Moldenhauer preached. Billy had been invited to go with the Rockefeller's to Dr. Fosdick's Church and then home with them to dinner. In the afternoon he and I had a good walk and then last evening we had our little Christmas celebration here, opening our packages as we shall be packing up tonight, except Billy who will be out at a party of some kind, and then we are going up on the early train tomorrow morning to Northfield. Mr. and Mrs. Welles, Henry and Joe and their two children, and we four will be at the Hotel and Laird and Kay will be at Elliott's. We shall stay until Saturday, unless I find that I must come down on Friday.

Mr. Chiara's wedding was very nice and simple. It was held in Calvary Church. Mother and Marnie were there and I arrived just at the close of the ceremony and we all went into the reception and wedding breakfast in the big room in the Church House. There was a very nice company present. Mrs. Parsons and Miss Groville and Mrs. Warner were there from Salisbury. Mother said there was a little characteristic incident at the beginning: The bride did not arrive right on the moment and Mr. Chiara's brother started in with the ceremony, with only Mr. Chiara standing in front of him, and then the organist was quick-witted and started in with music until a moment or two later the bride arrived. She is a very nice little body - very pretty-eyed and red-cheeked, and Mr. Chiara was flying around on sparrow wings as always.

We sat with Uncle Jim Cushman yesterday morning and of course saw Miss Aline. Mother was there calling a few calls and found her with her beloved pussy-cat.

Marnie is charmed to see the Chinese Amah in Grayson Park, and Billy is equally delighted. We miss you and Bob sorely but rejoice in all your happiness.

With warmest love and best wishes for the New Year,

W.F.B

455
1931

December 29, 1950

Mr. George Bailey,
Westchester, Pa.

My dear George:

I trust that you have been having a happy holiday time and that the New Year may be full of blessing and peace. Emma and I often speak about you and yesterday we were talking about all the historical material that you must have regarding the Bailey family.

We spent Christmas at Northfield with Elliott and his family and one evening there we spent going over all the family material that we had. I had a great deal collected regarding my ancestors but we had very little regarding Emma's. Since coming back I have started a large book in which to incorporate all the material that we can gather and I am writing to ask whether you do not have something that you could let me have for this book? Emma and I will be very grateful for everything that you can send us that we can incorporate it in this book in order that the children may have it for themselves and for their children.

I enclose a copy of a blank that we have used somewhat. Could you fill up the information called for on this blank for each generation of the Bailey family since the first Baileys came over and if you have similar information regarding your grandmother and the lines back of her.

With much love from us all,

Your sincere friend,

RES:B

January 21, 1931

Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street,
Huntingdon, Penna.

My dear Mig:

I have been released from my engagement for February 7th and shall look forward to being with you that day in Huntingdon at Charles' wedding. I am afraid that Emma and Margaret will not be able to come, but I will see what their engagements are. I am not sure yet as to what train I can come out on but will let you know some time in advance. I gather from Aunt Clara's letters that she will have gone to Texas and will not be back by the 7th.

With much love to Charley and yourself,

Ever affectionately yours

W.B.C.

March 2, 1931
(Dist. February 28, 1931)

Mrs. Robert F. L. Shour,
2 Glenview Crescent,
Edinburgh, Scotland

My dear old fatty:

Your good letter of February 15th with the enclosed check to cover Mr. Wainwright's bill was duly received. We were all delighted with your letter and the other letters from you and Bob.

The news come for Mrs. Kane and I have forwarded it in a letter to Mr. Kane in care of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Calcutta, India, where they are now stationed.

We have happy home times these days but we miss you and Bob. Mother went to Hartford this last week to speak at Y. W. C. A. meetings and goes to Boston on Monday. Last week she was at Charleston, South Carolina which she thinks is the most beautiful city in America. I think her present ideal is to spend the summers when we retire at Rockledge and the winters in Charleston. While she was gone there I went off on a trip to Chattanooga, Chicago, Canton, Ohio, and Elkhart, Indiana. Tonight I am going up to Mount Holyoke to speak there and at the Mahomet Agricultural College tomorrow morning. We are having the most heavenly weather - clear skies and most beautiful fresh cool air. The days are just like the most perfect days of early spring. They are not helping in the water supply, however. It seems strange that there should be such a dearth of rain and snow in the Catskills and such an abundance in the Berkshires.

I had expected to go up to Rockledge today to make arrangements if possible for a caretaker in Blake's place. The dear old fellow died, as I think we wrote you, in the Waterbury Hospital about a month ago. Mr. Wagner thought he had found us the right man and I was going up to see him but I am glad to say that Bill Zeaks, who has been looking after the place, telephoned me on Thursday evening that he thought he would like to take Blake's full job permanently. That has lifted all our anxieties as Bill is a master-workman and thoroughly reliable. With his help we will make Rockledge more beautiful even than before.

Holly is down for a little visit with her mother, leaving the children at Northfield with an old and trusted friend who has gone up from New York. Holly and Marnie were at Aunt Lucy Bulkley's last night at dinner and then they all went to hear the Peter Ibbetson Opera. Edward Johnson whom we heard at Sharon, you remember, last summer is Peter Ibbetson.

March 2, 1931

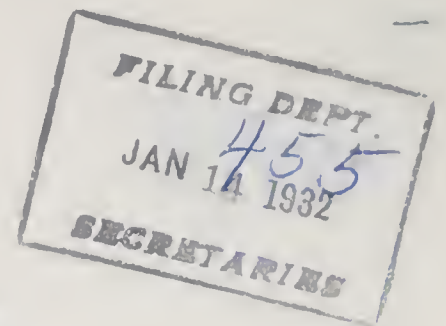
Marnie had a very nice party one evening this week. There were present beside mother and Marnie and myself - Elliott and Holly, Rose Wolf and her husband, Jean Pat, Pitt Van Dusen, Dr. Reed and a young Mr. Davies whom Marnie had known in China. We had a wonderful dinner which Mrs. Hendrickson had cooked and then all but mother and me went to see "The Barretts of Wimpole Street." I have not seen it but Billy was up last Saturday afternoon and took Barbara to see it and they were delighted with it.

It is good to hear of your group meetings. We had some report of the Aberdeen meetings, as I wrote you, from Pitt.

God bless you all.

Your really loving,

R.F.B.



January 9, 1932
(Dictated 8th)

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Peking University,
Peiping, China.

My dearest Marnie,

I am sending you under separate cover several Christmas cards that came for you and two little Bible reading books, one prepared by Dr. Kerr, and the other by Dr. Stone and Mr. Anderson. Perhaps some of your girls would like to have these.

I sent Uncle Ed's Christmas present to the Citizens National Bank of Englewood, to be credited to your account. I think you have now some \$80.00 and more to your credit there. Please let me know if at any time you want the account replenished. I have advised the bank that if at any time the account is overdrawn they are to honor your check and let me know. The bank reports a balance of \$5.10 interest to your Savings Account there, which, as you know, is entirely separate from your checking account.

We have had a very happy holiday time. I wrote you about it from Buffalo where Billy and I were attending the Student Volunteer Convention. I came away very much encouraged by the Convention. It was disappointing to some of our missionaries who were there but I told them it represented a very great advance over the last three Conventions, especially that war-like assembly that you and I attended at Des Moines. When the Convention closed Billy went down to Baltimore for a couple of days with Patty and Bob before returning to Princeton, and I came back to New York. Mother came up from Baltimore Monday evening. She was delighted with Patty's housekeeping and her care of Joan.

Mother thinks she got a great deal of good from Clifton Springs, and I hope that she will go back there this month when I have to go off for a two week trip to Florida, to various missionary conferences in the south.

We had Mary Durfee with us several nights this week, but saw very little of her as she would be out all evening until midnight and slept late in the mornings. We are going up to dinner this evening with Mr. and Mrs. Wells and I believe the Gleysteens are to be there. I saw them on Wednesday of this week when Dr. and Mrs. Scott had all the China missionaries who were within reach together at a luncheon in our Assembly room. Mother had a luncheon at the Y.W.C.A. and could not go, but I was there. It was nice to see a number of old friends, all of whom asked after you.

I have just come from a luncheon now at which a group of some eight or nine Board secretaries were asking questions of Dr. Knight and Dr. Monroe with regard to educational problems in China. Dr. Knight was the higher educational investigator on the Fact Finding Commission of the Laymen's Missionary Inquiry. He was not free to speak of his report at all and he answered the questions with some reservations which Dr. Monroe with his accustomed outspokenness answered unreservedly.

1/9/32

Dr. Monroe thinks that the colleges in China must take their choice between being Christian in the missionary sense on the one hand, and being scientific educationally on the other. We argued that these are not contradictory that there must be a synthesis but he seems to think that this is not possible in any given institution. He and Dr. Knight are sailing next Tuesday, I believe, for Iraq, at the invitation of the Educational Department there to make a study of education in Mesopotamia.

I trust that you will be seeing Dr. and Mrs. Cotton when they are in Peiping early in February. He is minister of the Broad Street Presbyterian Church in Columbus, and formerly Professor of Philosophy in Wooster College, and is one of the best of our younger ministers. He is in the Far East now as lecturer on the Joseph Cook Foundation. He is a very bright, good, capable man and his lectures have met with extraordinary acceptance in India. I trust that it may be the same in China. I have heard of the extraordinary audiences which are turning out to hear Sherwood Eddy and the report which I have seen says that he is speaking to them with great frankness and honesty with regard to China's need and Christ's sufficiency.

Billy is coming up this afternoon to some party tonight which I believe Mary French is also attending. Barbara Hatch, however, is abroad spending the winter in Paris.

I am very sorry to hear of the mistake over the victrola. I have sent your account of the matter to Miss Starr but have not yet received any reply. Miss Connell just tells me that Mr. Steele says that it was a mistake of the Company, and that he is taking it up with the company to see what can be done. He or I will report to you as soon as he has heard. Meanwhile, unless you can make some perfectly satisfactory arrangement without any loss, it might be well to wait until you hear from him.

With dearest love,

RFS:C.

February 7, 1932

FILING DEPT.
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SECRETARINE

Mr. Generalissimo,

You will be interested in the enclosed letter from Dr. Sailer which appeared in the New York Times of February 2nd. The Shanghai developments have led to an increasing wave of sentiment here adverse to the policy and proceedings of Japan. It is difficult to see how Japan can reconcile such proceedings with her signature to the Kellogg pact which bound each signatory to refrain from war and the use of arms and violence in the settlement of international disputes. The papers report the destruction of the commercial press with its valuable library in Shanghai, and damage have done to many innocent Chinese. The political behaviour of China has no doubt been reprehensible enough, but not enough to warrant any such actions as these of Japan. It is good to see the strong sentiment among the Christians in Japan against this militaristic outburst.

We have completed our removal from the sixth to the ninth floor at 24 Broadway Park. The new apartment is beautifully light and clean. Mrs. Hendriksen is delighted with the kitchen in contrast with the foggy little affair on the sixth floor. It is all freshly painted and papered and we are very happy in the change. We seem far up above the park now and have once again our view of the Metropolitan Life Insurance clock.

Willie's last letter was full of lovely news about a recent trip which Billy and he took to London, and about their enlightening the wigwags of the children. They have grown so fast that they needed new clothes and are outfitted now with scotch tartans and kilts. It certainly will be interesting to see them when they come home. Bob, I believe, has decided to take another year at Johns Hopkins and is hoping that Betty and Joan will be at Ackliffe and that you will have Caroline and Eleanor for a time at least while Holly and Willie are getting settled at Mount Hermon.

On the train going to Florida and coming back I sold Marykowsk's "Leonard in Moor." It can be secured now, I think, in very cheap form, and it is one of the most amazing books that I have ever read. In its picture of Leonard, Michael Angelo and Raphael, and its terrible indictment of the main Church at the time of the Borgias. Billy gave the book to me in a beautiful edition at Christmas time. I am trying to get a copy of the cheaper edition to send to you.

We received a letter this morning from Billy's morning giving the result of the scholarship standing for the first semester. He is a first group in everything which gives him, of course, a first class group, so he has climbed up on his standing now on to your lofty pinnacle.

We are going to have the next meeting of the Board at Aunt Sara's - an all-day session - with the following program:

1. The regular and necessary business of the Board.
2. A discussion of the administration by the Board or its work of home and abroad, considering any of the methods of the Board or the forms of organization that should be modified.
3. Luncheon.
4. Reports from Miss Kittredge and Miss Moore and from Mrs. Gunterson - if she can be persuaded to report also on her visit to Asia.
5. A discussion of the fundamental basis and motivation of the mission work, both as to the conditions that now exist and as to more ideal conditions, having in mind the giving of money and the giving of life and the promotion of prayer.

January was again a bad month for the receipts. The church's contributions fell off, I think, nearly 25%. With the exception of November this has been the worst month. The falling off for the whole year to date has been about 11%. I judge that we are better off than any of the other mission boards, but I do not know what this month and next may bring. These, of course, are the two heavy months so that any increase of a percentage of loss will show very heavily.

A nice note came day before yesterday from a good friend in the West enclosing a check for \$5000. But many other friends who would like to do this simply cannot do so under present conditions.

Mother, Billy and I went to dine one evening with the Stephens Bakers and had a very nice evening with them, and with Bishop and Mrs. Sherrill of Massachusetts. Bishop Sherrill is Bishop Lawrence's successor.

We get no information as to who Dr. Hibben's successor is to be at Princeton. John Mackay has just been here delivering missionary lectures in the Seminary and speaking to different groups of University students. He says the students to whom he talked here only a baloney philosophy of life - to participate would be rude and unclean. The attitude of the gentleman and scholar is to sit on the veranda and be a spectator and critic.

You will be having soon a visit from the Laymen's Inquiry Commission. I am glad that Mrs. Cibley and Dr. Parkour and Dr. Merrill are on it. You will greatly enjoy having them with you, and you must by all means get acquainted with our two friends Dr. and Mrs. Mackinn.

You will be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter from Deacon Gibill written from his shack of a home in New Brunswick.

With deepest love from us all,

FILING DEPT
455
MAR 24 1932
SECRETARIES

March 11, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dearest Marnie:

I enclose a copy of the Federal Council Information Service of March 5th, containing some items which may be of interest to you. I sent you also a package of newspaper clippings a few days ago, covering the China-Japan situation, the kidnaping of the Lindbergh baby, and other matters. The kidnaping has of course been the chief item of news. Mother told me a great tale last evening of having heard that the kidnaping had been arranged in order to divert the attention of the public from the China-Japan situation and from the Disarmament Conference in order that the munition manufacturers might continue to profit. I told her that was a tale hard to credit. The Englewood people seem to think that the kidnaping could only have been effected by parties that had inside information about the two households and their clans. What is going on in the efforts to recover the baby the public does not know although the newspapers try to ferret out and publish all they can.

Mother had a good day yesterday. She invited some ten or a dozen of the women missionaries who are in or near New York to meet with a corresponding number of members and friends of the Board. She seemed very well contented last evening over the day. She went off at dinner time to a dinner of the Chinese Christian Student Association at which Mrs. Slade and Dr. Fume spoke. The dinner was in a Chinese restaurant on Broadway and I judge the party at the Christian Association dinner on the second floor was very different from the cabaret party on the first floor.

Mother thinks her feet and knee are very much better. She goes through various exercises and occasionally indulges in some mildly violent knee kicking.

We have just had bad news from Miss Bickie at Clifton Springs. She has had another stroke but seems to be recovering again and able with help to walk once more. They are having a medical conference at Clifton Springs this week, attended by medical missionaries and medical secretaries of the various Boards. I am afraid I am not going to be able to persuade mother to go back again now that the spring is coming on. Perhaps she might be willing to go while I am at the General Assembly but I am inclined to think she would rather be at Rockledge those days. We have made up the list of flower seeds, leaving it to Bill Jenks to get what vegetable seeds he wants according to his own judgment. We are hoping to get up for part of the first week in May for the planting. It is one of the happiest experiences of the year. I have not had the touring car put in shape yet but must do so either for April first or May first and we shall have then the new closed car - one of the small Buick Sedans for five passengers.

March 11, 1932

I spent two days this week in Pittsburgh at the meeting of the Joint Committee on Union of our own and the United Presbyterian Churches. We had a very good time together and have cleared, I think, most of the difficulties and objections to the tentative plan which we issued some months ago. I am inclined to think it may be better to let the matter go over for another year, however, before asking the "resbyteries to take action. This will give time to clear away further objections. The only difficulty is that it allows time also for further opposition to develop on the part of those who are opposed to union on principle. I can't see how such people can consent to live under the union they now have. The principle on which they rest their opposition to union ought to lead them to break up their existing unions.

Patty was expecting to come up today for the week-end leaving Bob to care for the baby. We had been expecting Ella Speer and her fiance -- Major Calhoun to come in for dinner this evening, but Aunt Margaret telephoned last evening that Ella was in bed with a bad cold. Peggy and Sheafe I fear are still having hard times. Sheafe has been unable to get any employment.

Billy has broken out into a new field. In a recent wrestling contest between Yale and Princeton there was no available Princeton candidate in the very heavy weight class and the trainer persuaded Billy to go along to New Haven so that Princeton might not have to default in this class. Billy was game and took a few lessons but was thrown in less than two minutes. It seems to have given him a taste for the sport, however, and he thinks he will go on with this as well as the rowing.

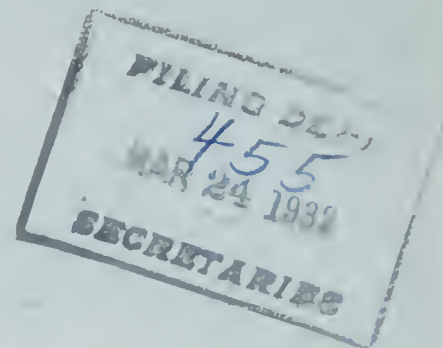
Elliott writes that he is making progress with his thesis and has the outline of it now fairly clear. The same mail that brought his last letter brought mother a good letter from Dr. Cairns, which I translated for her from the Aberdonian hieroglyphic in which Dr. Cairns writes. He is busy on the Baird lectures now but was writing specially regarding one of Miss Kirkland's books which mother had asked the publisher to send him.

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the Federal Council Bulletin for February containing several addresses in which you may be interested.

I trust your mails have been resumed and you are getting news from the outside world and also from Shanghai. I trust you were able to see Dr. and Mrs. Cotton and I think you will have Dr. Hockings group with you or at least a good part of it. They cabled from Hongkong a few days ago that in view of "the improved international situation" some of them were planning to go to Shanghai.

Aunt Clara wrote a week or two ago that the tulips and hyacinths were up in her garden, but since then we have had some of the coldest days of the winter and I am afraid the poor things have drooped.

With dearest love from us all,



March 18, 1932
Dict. March 14)

Miss Caroline Speer,
40 Palmerston Place,
Edinburgh, Scotland.

My dearest Caroline:

Ganny and I were delighted to get your beautiful letter, and we watch every week for the letters from your father and mother with the journal of all that you are doing. We are glad that you are having such a happy time and are looking forward eagerly to seeing you next summer.

I hope that you and Eleanor have not acquired such a Scotch brogue that we will not understand you when you speak. What in the world will the birds and squirrels at Rockledge do if you talk to them in Scotch?

I am very anxious also to see the kilts, and I am wondering what colors your knees will be! Isn't it the custom in Scotland for people to paint their knees the color of the plaid? Or do they get jet black because of all the coal-dust and the smoke and the fierce winds that blow across the Pentlands?

I haven't received any poems from you for a long time. What has happened to your poetical faculty? Perhaps it has frozen or maybe it does not thrive on potatoes and brussels sprouts. And yet Robert Burns managed to get poetry out of whatever he ate, though perhaps he got some of it out of what he drank, alas!

Uncle Bill is huger than ever, and Aunt Patty is making us a little visit now, leaving Joan with Uncle Bob in Baltimore. We get good letters from Aunt Marnie, but she is very busy, and the disturbances in China seem to have delayed the mails.

Ganny and I have been at Rockledge several times this winter, and we will be going up the end of April and the beginning of May to plant the flower seeds. Perhaps your father will have told you that the noble, beautiful, pretty useful and sometimes obedient Pierce car is gone. When you come, there will be a nice, new, shiny, very dark green Buick in its place. You will find a nice, new walled lawn back of the barn where Joan takes her naps.

With dearest love to your father and mother and Eleanor and Margo -

Your very loving

RES:ANW

FILING DEPT
455
APR 4 1932
SECRETARIES

March 28, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University
Peiping, China.

My dearest Marnie:

We have just had a nice visit from Billy. He came up on Friday and he and mother went to Parsifal together in the afternoon and thought it was one of the most beautiful things they had ever heard. They found out afterwards that Mrs. Hendrickson, who was busy at home that day scrubbing and getting ready for Easter, had been listening over her little radio at the same time. It gives one a great sense of the Church invisible to think of how many people are listening in with one.

We had an amusing experience yesterday afternoon. We tuned in to get the Sistine Choir at the Vatican which was being sent out by one of the New York stations. It began with a very nice speech by Cardinal O'Connell describing the Choir. When he got through what should follow but an Italian Band playing American jazz music, which the Cardinal abhors. It had been some mishap in Rome. The papers this morning are full of profuse apologies to the Cardinal from the Broadcast Company.

I had a very busy Holy Week. I went to Pittsburgh on Friday night, March 18th, and spoke Saturday afternoon for Dr. Kerr at a service preparatory to his communion. Then in the evening from a quarter to twelve to a quarter to one, I sent out the missionary broadcast messages from the Westinghouse station. There was one from Mrs. Mead to Lawrence and one from mother to you reading - "Hemlock, balsam, spruce and pine. Much love." I wonder whether anybody has been able to pick up any of these messages in Peiping. I fear there are very few of our mission stations which have been able to get them but we know that some have been received and it has been a great thing for the people at home to have sent the messages. Patty in Baltimore and Aunt Margaret and Ella in Nyack were both listening and got the message to you. When I got through broadcasting a nice Chinese girl was there - a graduate from Hackett Medical College, who sent a message in English to the College and then in Chinese to her mother.

On Palm Sunday I spoke in the Sewickley Church in the morning and then at Dr. Kerr's broadcasting service in the evening and at Wilkesburg in the evening with good congregations everywhere and the evening Church packed, with people standing. Tuesday evening I spoke in Maplewood, New Jersey; Wednesday noon in Troy, Wednesday evening here in New York; Thursday noon in Syracuse, Thursday evening in Oswego and Friday noon in Syracuse again. It is astonishing to see the growing attendance at these Lenten meetings - not on Good Friday and Easter day alone, but on everyday in the week.

Yesterday morning mother and Billy and I went to the Easter service in Dr. Buttrick's Church, which was packed as full as it would hold, with overflowing congregations in the chapels and the Church House. After Church Billy and I went to see Uncle Ned and Aunt Lucy. Uncle Ned has been sick for some weeks but is improving now and has taken on a little extra weight. In the afternoon we staid at home, reading and writing until late in the afternoon when Billy went to call on Uncle Jim and Aunt Vera and I went out for a little walk around Stuyvesant Square.

I am putting in all the time I can these days in reading and making notes for the Stone Lectures at Princeton next fall or winter. I am going to speak on the Uniqueness and the Finality of Christ, although I have not yet got a satisfactory title. I have been reading shoals of books of every type from Denny to Case, and have done more reading than I ever did in my life before in the early fathers.

Last Saturday Ella came in for us in her Ford car and she and mother and Billy and I went out to Piermont for luncheon and stopped in Englewood on the way back to see Peggy and her baby. The baby is a dear with fat rosy cheeks. Sheafe has not been able as yet to get any job here and they are thinking of moving to Hartford. I think it would be better, however, for Sheafe to be sure of something there before making the jump.

We get the most interesting letters from Deacon. He seems to have turned into quite an evangelist and home missionary in New Brunswick. Uncle Coley is sending him a radio. You will be interested in the following poem which Deacon wrote and sent to Uncle Coley:

"Oh may that strength to others come
And bring the wandering sinners home
His love abounds in bulk in length
Only through Him we get our strength.

"My one great wish when I am gone
That others have a diamond pond
My days are few on earth I know
He washed my sins as white as snow.

"Now at the sunset of life's day
Oh what a privilege to pray
For fellowship with Him does bring
More riches than an earthly King.

"One holy spot methinks I see
One holy spot blest Calvary
Another place of which I'm fond
The assembly hall, at diamond Pond.

"God beaoned me when all seemed lost
As I was on life's billows tossed.
He lifted me ere I did sink
And cured my appetite for drink.

"In God's own time He lifted me
And made me absolutely free.
Between He and I there is a pond
A tender memory diamond Pond."

You may be sure that Deacon sees the humor of these things quite as much as any one else.

Just as I was coming away this morning the postman brought the letters, including one from you which I shall look forward to reading on getting home tonight.

Mother and I are hoping to get up to Rockledge this week-end. We have turned in the dear old Pierce on a small Buick sedan, which is to be ready for us by Friday and mother is looking forward eagerly to some rides over the hills. I imagine it will be too early for us to get off on the country roads.

I enclose some newspaper clippings from the Kansas City papers sent me by our friend, Miss Louise Phillips there. You will be interested in these accounts of your home scenes.

With dearest love from us all,

RES:B

FILING DEPT
455
APR 12 1932
SECRETARIES

April 6, 1932
(Dict. April 5)

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping West
Hopei, China

My dearest Marnie:

We had fine letters this morning from Patty and Billy. Patty has been having some sinus trouble, and there has been some question as to the advisability of a radical operation. But her doctor advises against it if, as now seems likely, she and Bob are to continue in Baltimore next year. Before it gets too hot, Patty is planning to come with Joan to Rockledge, and her plans include several round trips with the open Buick for purposes of transporting freight.

Billy has been rowing at number four in the first boat at Princeton, but he writes now that he has had to give up his place to George Merrill, whose father was a classmate of mine in college, and who, Billy says, is a better oarsman than he is, Billy taking George's place in the second boat. He seems to be getting along finely in his work. His essays are certainly full of ability and originality.

Mother and I had a beautiful week-end at Rockledge. We went up Thursday evening in a heavy rain, and the rain poured down and the winds blew until morning when the rain turned to snow, and the country was all white, as it was again on Saturday morning. We had plenty of sunshine, however, and Sunday was a beautiful spring day. We got the new Buick sedan Friday morning and had a number of good rides in it. It is a most comfortable and satisfactory car, although it looks rather small standing by the other car and taking the place which had been occupied by the majestic Pierce. Sunday morning we picked out a distant church and went to Norfolk where they have a very good minister, a brother of Dr. Rockwell Potter of Hartford, who used to be a missionary in India. After church we drove over to North Colebrook and then home. On Wednesday evening we went to a nice little dinner party at 52 Gramercy Park in honor of James McConaughy's seventy-fifth birthday. Among the guests were Dr. and Mrs. Dickerson. Both they and James McConaughy were full of friendly messages for Elliott.

The Sunday "Times" had a half-column article on Dr. Cutler and Elliott which mother cut out and will be sending to him.

We have just had a terrible tragedy in the suicide of Mrs. Raymond Fosdick after she had killed their two children. There has been some mental trouble, I think, for some time, but no one dreaded any such tragic outcome as this.

We have had more winter during the month of March than all the preceding months combined. The farmers who were afraid they would get no ice for their milk were able to lay in a good supply, and the snows came down so deep that the ground is thoroughly moist, and we ought to have a grand summer. We have the seeds all ready for the gardens, and I am just ordering some extra bulbs. We put in a great deal that was new last year and are anxious to see it coming up this spring.

Dr. Cotton is safely home from his Cook Lectureship, and I am hoping to see him soon and to hear fully of his experiences. His letters have been admirable.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer - 2.

April 6, 1932

Mother has a great deal to do these days in tying up her work with the Y. W. C. A. preparatory to passing over the Presidency of the National Board to Mrs. Paist. There are to be various celebrations, of which I will try to give you an account after they have taken place.

With dearest love from us all -

RES:AMW

FILING DEPT
455
APR 15 1932
SECRETARIES

April 11, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China.

My dearest Marnie:

I have just been writing a little note to Dorothy Anne Ritter to thank her for her letter reporting the birth of Jean Margaret, and asking her to take Jean over to see you some day.

The days are as busy as ever here and one looks forward in vain to any time when they will be less urgent.

Mother resigned last week as President of the National Board but I don't see that it has made any difference and I am afraid that it will simply mean that she will do just as much as ever. I hope, however, that she may be able to do it with a little more freedom. Dr. Charles Watson of Cairo was in a few days ago and was telling me how much more of a sense of liberty he had as president of the University than he used to have as Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church. I gathered that he thought he could both think and speak with less constraint now than in the former days. I don't know that I have felt any constraint, however. I have said what I thought and shall go on doing so.

Last week and this are somewhat social. Mother and I went to a very nice dinner party last Tuesday evening at Mrs. Roswell Miller, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Wells were there, Mr. and Mrs. DuBois Morris, Mrs. Carnegie, Mrs. Bodman and Mr. William H. Parsons, and we had a very happy time.

Thursday I had to be in Richmond, Va., speaking at the Union Theological Seminary of the Southern Presbyterian Church. The peach and plum trees were in blossom and the grass was green. Here there is very little sign of spring as yet. There is a little green in the privet hedge in Gramercy Park, and some pink on the Magnolia tree, however. We have had so much rain that I think the first warm day will bring spring out with a leap.

Last Saturday evening I had to speak at a missionary meeting in Philadelphia, where we had a good church full in spite of a down-pour of rain, and yesterday morning I spoke in Mr. Butzer's church in Ridgewood, crowded full also in spite of rain. Dr. Holmes Church in Buffalo, where Dr. Holmes is retired, is trying to get Dr. Butzer to come there and after I spoke yesterday morning the congregation had a meeting to plan how they might keep their minister.

April 11, 1932

I was driven back to New York after the morning service and mother and I had a lovely quiet afternoon. Indeed she spent the whole day at home. When I left in the morning she said she would go into the Friends Meeting House on 20th Street, but she changed her mind.

Tonight we are going up to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Baker's for dinner and to meet the President of the World Young Women's Christian Association, who is over here and for whom, as well as for mother, there are to be some great doings tomorrow evening. I will write you a truthful account of these in due time.

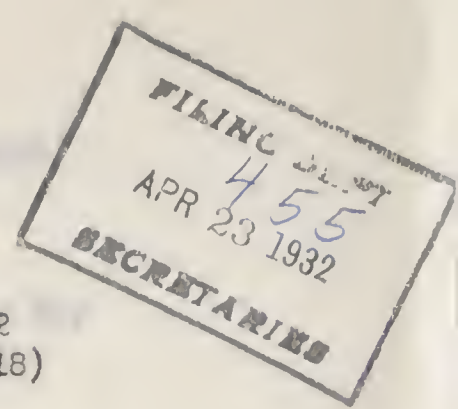
I am afraid we shan't get up to Rockledge again this month but we are hoping to go up the first week in May for the spring planting. Mother is going then to the Y. W. C. A. Convention in Minneapolis and she will hardly have got back before I will have to start off for the General Assembly in Denver.

Patty is planning various trips between Baltimore and Rockledge in the open Buick transporting freight and Joan. I haven't had the open Buick put in order yet but will do so at the end of this month so it will be available in May.

I am having a lovely time in my spare moments these days working on the Apostolic fathers of the second century, drawing out their estimate and valuation of Christ and working back from that generation by generation to the days of Christ Himself. Against the idea that the later generations amplified and supplemented the estimate of Christ, St. Paul stands as an immovable barrier. The later generations present no more thorough-going presentation of the finality and absoluteness and the universality of Christ than one finds in St. Paul. What I am trying to bring out just now is the conception of Christianity which authentically existed in the first two centuries and which alone had survival and propagating power.

I must begin to round up the day now. This will be the last letter of the day and it comes with a great wealth of love to you from us all.

RES:B



April 19, 1932
(Dict. April 18)

Mrs. Charles L. Reed
234 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

My dear Mig:

I am afraid that it has been a long time since I have written to you, and I am sorry it hasn't been possible to stop off in Huntingdon to see you all. I have gone through a number of times, and yesterday got as near as Harrisburg, where Emma and I were spending Sunday while I spoke in the Market Square Church. A number of Huntingdon County people came up to speak, and the official of the church who seemed to have me in charge was, I think, Harry Musser. I came back last night, but Emma stayed over. They were going to drive down to Baltimore today to see Patty and then to Rosemont (near Bryn Mawr) where Emma was to speak at a Y. W. C. A. luncheon.

She has had busy days this last week with her Y. W. C. A. gatherings. We went to one dinner party on Monday night, another on Tuesday night and then to a grand reception. She had luncheons the next day, with the presentation of a jeweled brooch, and more meetings after that, so that I was glad to take her away on Saturday afternoon for a day or two of real rest.

I have to go away Thursday for a trip in the Southwest but hope to be back on Friday, the 29th, so that we can go up for that week-end to "Rockledge." The winter has been so prolonged there that it may be too early for the flower seeds. In that case, I shall go back the next week alone, as Emma will be away at the National Convention of the Y. W. C. A. in Minneapolis.

We get good word from all the children. I saw Billy in Princeton last week, very well and happy. Elliott and Holly and Caroline have gone for a trip on the continent. If they had remained in Scotland, they would have overstayed the period of income tax exemption and would have had to pay more of a tax than the trip on the continent will cost them. They seem to be very well and happy, and the little girls have evidently had a glorious winter in their Scotch school. Marnie is very well, though she is working hard. She is head now of the English Department of the University. Dr. Stuart, the President, is here now and had dinner with us one evening last week and gave us the latest tidings about her.

Ella Spear writes that they have now settled on May 21st as the wedding. They had an earlier day, but it came when I was to be away, and Ella, like the dear that she is, fixed another time when Emma and I could both be present. A couple of weeks ago, when

Mrs. Charles L. Reed - 2.

April 19, 1932

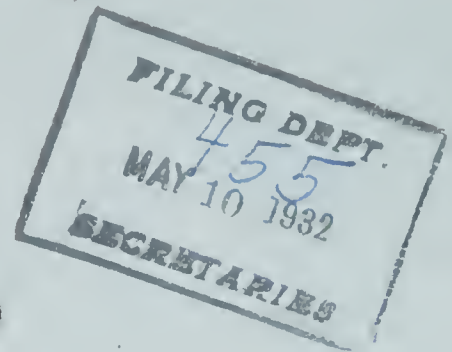
Billy was home for Easter, we drove up to Piermont on Saturday for luncheon. It was my first trip across the George Washington Bridge.

Emma and I had a lovely week-end at "Rockledge" the first Sunday this month. We traded in our old Pierce car this spring on a new Buick sedan, and Emma and I spent a good part of our time roaming over the country in the new car. She thinks she will go in for chickens this summer, and the gardener writes that he has completed the chicken pen. I tell Emma that I will keep an account of the expense to find out how many dollars each chicken will cost and how many times the market price the eggs will cost.

I shall have to go out to the General Assembly the end of May and will not get back until the first week in June. I am going to try to stop at Fairfield on the way back to see the Loudens. Robert Louden's daughter Roberta has been here this winter, and she seems to be a very nice girl.

With dearest love to you all -

RRS:AMW



May 4, 1932
(Dict. May 3)

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear
Yenching University, Peiping West
Hopei, China

My dearest Marnie:

It has been a fortnight since I wrote you last. I could not get off any letter last week as I was traveling around in the South-west until the week-end, and then mother and I went to Rockledge. I left New York on April 20, speaking at meetings in Louisville, Kansas City, Topeka, Kansas, and Springfield, Missouri. We would have three and four meetings a day, all well attended, and the evening meetings would be crowded. One hears of the financial depression, of course, everywhere, but there are few visible signs of it except in light travel and the general listlessness. It is wonderful that with such financial constriction things go on as placidly as they do. In the churches where we were, while many individuals had been severely hit, the work as a whole had gone on, and some of the churches said that they would not fall back any further this new year.

It was summer-time in Missouri. The dogwood and juniper and lilacs and apple trees were all in bloom, and we had delicious strawberries. When I got back to New York on Friday, the 29th, spring had hardly begun. When mother and I went up to Rockledge that evening, there was very little sign of springtime. It was too early and chill still to plant. Saturday, however, was a warm spring day. And on Saturday and Sunday, we had a perfect rain, gentle and steady, so that, when we came away Sunday evening, the country was green and the plum blossoms had come out on one of the plum trees.

Bill Jenks had built a chicken house for mother, and Saturday night we went up to Hillsdale and got thirty nice white Wyandottes, so that if Caroline and Eleanor and Margot come to visit Joan this summer they will have the chickens to play with.

Mother left yesterday for Minneapolis for the National Y.W.C.A. Convention, and will not be back until Friday, May 13. I hope to go up to Rockledge Thursday night of this week, and, if it is warm enough, shall put in the flower seeds. The gardens are all dug and waiting. The perennials have come up finely, though I think we have lost a few of the beautiful ones that we got from Henderson's two years ago. I haven't heard finally from Patty as to her plans, but I presume that she will be coming up with Joan to Rockledge in June. Billy's summer plans are still unsettled as to whether he will be here or will go to Europe, especially to Geneva. He is in the second boat at Princeton. I think they are having several races, which will keep him from getting home for week-ends.

Elliott writes that they are expecting to sail on the Transylvania from Glasgow on July 2. They will be spending the last week with Mrs. Carnegie Skibo. They have had a glorious trip on the continent, and seem to have had plenty of colds since getting back to England.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer - 2.

May 4, 1932

Your good letter written on Easter Sunday afternoon has been received. I am sorry that your plans for the English Department staff next year have gone agley, but perhaps they will work out better than you fear.

Ella has set her marriage for Saturday, May 21. I think I wrote you about her coming to dinner with her fiance. He seemed like a very nice person.

At the meeting of the Board yesterday, we were grappling with the appropriation question. Thanks to savings in exchange, the last year did not end so badly. We came out at the last with a deficit of about \$65,000 but only because we used all the available legacy funds of the year, amounting to \$276,000, instead of \$185,000, which is the rule. Facing all the facts and the general situation, the Board felt the only right thing was to continue the 10 per cent. reduction in the second quarter of the year, until September 30, in the hope that by that time conditions may be such as to warrant the full appropriations for the balance of the year. It is interesting to note that the missionaries at home on furlough as they go about the churches all feel that the course which the Board is pursuing is the right one. Fortunately, in almost all of our missions, the exchange situation is such that a reduction can be cared for either without difficulty or with far less difficulty than in other times. In Persia now the missionaries have been receiving three times as much native currency for the dollar as normally, and it is believed that before long they will be receiving four or five times as much. Of course, prices alter too but not nearly as much as exchange. And such rates of exchange will allow the full purchasing equivalent of the old salary and more and still leave enough to take care of most if not all of the reduction in so far as the Mission may desire that it should fall in Class I.

I have just been looking over the last published statements of the Methodist Board and the American Board, and they are simply tragic. The Methodist Board says that three years more like the last one will wipe out their foreign mission work entirely. The American Board is cutting down salaries, home allowances, pensions, withdrawing from three of its fields, reducing the work everywhere and dropping some of their secretaries at home. We are hoping and praying that the bottom has been reached now in the giving of our churches, but it is too soon to say. Already the month of April this year shows a falling-off as compared with April of last year.

I enclose a copy of a report of a recent Foreign Student Conference here in which you may be interested.

With dearest love,

RES:AMW

FILING DEPT
455
JUN 9 1932
SECRETARIES

June 8, 1932
(Dictated 7th)

My dearest Marnie,

I wrote you last on Sunday morning from Iowa City. The day there was beautifully fair but terribly hot. The Baccalaureate services were to have been held in the open air but the ground was so soft, although the sun was shining warmly, that they went into their large assembly hall. The room was packed to suffocation. It had a low ceiling and we all nearly melted. I think the temperature could not have been less than 100 deg., or more, in the room. I was drenched wet when it was over, and had to go home and put on dry clothes before I could go to dinner at the President's. I left in the evening going on to Kingston, N.Y., to speak last evening at the Centennial of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America. They drove me after the meeting to Poughkeepsie, where I caught a late train and reached home after midnight. Mother and Alice and Billy had driven down from Lakeville, Billy taking the car on with him to Princeton, in order to bring some of his things up to Lakeville. He will be back on Thursday to drive mother up again. I am afraid I cannot go as I have to be in Pittsburgh for Sunday. I shall come back Sunday night, however, and will stop at Lakeville on my way to Hartford, where I have to speak Wednesday morning. Mother says she will be glad to drive over with me that morning. Billy will be taking the open car down to Baltimore to get Patty and bring her and Joan up to Lakeville.

Mother is looking exceedingly well. She says that Ackledge is perfectly beautiful. She came down especially for the New Missionaries party which we are to have this evening. It will not be as large as usual, but we cannot take care of as many at Grandarcy Park as we could at Englewood. Fortunately the weather has turned very pleasant after Sunday's heat, which was the hottest day of the summer thus far.

We have just received the following letter from the Baker & Taylor Co.:

"Miss Margaret Spear of Yenching University, Canton, China, has returned to us a copy of Morejkowski's 'The Romance of Leonardo da Vinci' but we do not seem to have received any word from her as to why this book was sent back.

"If this return was made due to any error of ours in filling the order, we shall gladly and promptly make any necessary adjustment. You will appreciate, however, that we cannot proceed without further particulars and we hope that you will furnish us with these, advising us the date of our charge, without further delay.

"We will hold the above return awaiting further word from you regarding it."

The time is drawing near for Elliott and Molly to turn home-ward.

We had a lovely letter from Holly telling of the beauty of the springtime in Edinburgh. The little girls have very much enjoyed Scotland, but they begin to long for the freedom of their life at Northfield. Elliott is preaching in St. Giles Cathedral this coming Sunday. It will be interesting to get his report of it. It makes mother very proud to think of her son in that historic place. I hope that no modern Jenny throws a stall at him!

Patty has sent some lovely pictures of Joan, who is evidently a character of much personality. It will be great fun to see her at Rockledge this summer.

We have read with great interest your letter about the gardens and Mr. Berger's visit, and shall look for the pictures. We were much amused at the Chinese paper's account of the "huge foreign woman" who had gone to see the flower trees.

I am sorry you did not see Dr. and Mrs. Hocking, but am glad you saw some of the other members of the party. I have just had a good long talk with Dr. Cotton, who remembers with much pleasure his visit with you. He spoke to the Board and at the New Missionaries Dinner last evening, and gave admirable addresses. I am sorry I could not be present to hear him.

The stock and bond market has been a little more encouraging the last few days, but the business men say they see no sign of improvement while Congress and the bonus claimants are doing their best to make conditions still worse. It was sad to see, in my cousin's big factories in Fairfield, a mere handful of men at work and the big black boards showing the workmen's cards indicating the men who are laid off. Most people with whom one talks look for a hard fall and winter. Yet the crops seem to be in better condition than ever. Nature does her best for us, but man, who thinks he is the master of nature, shows himself the hopeless incompetent.

With dearest love from us all,

RES:C.

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear
Yenching University,
Peiping, China.

FILING DEPT
455
JUN 9 1932
SECRETARIES

E.S. With regard to the letter from the Baker Taylor Co., I find that it was our own Purchasing Department that made the mistake and asked that the book should be sent to "Yenching, Kwangsi, Canton." They are correcting the matter and seeing that the book is sent on to you to help. I am sorry that it has been so long delayed.

Father.

FILING DEPT
JUN 24 1955
SECRETARIES

Jun 24, 1955
(Received Jun 24)

Mrs. Robert T. Spear
300 Humboldt,
Denver, Colorado.

My dear Robert:

I got home safely from the General Assembly in pre-arranged engagements on Tuesday of this week and have been busy ever since trying to catch up with the accumulations of a really three weeks vacation. I look back with greatest pleasure on the days in Denver and on the happy evening with you. I am only sorry that it was not possible to see more of you but I had to leave on Wednesday on the adjournment of the Assembly and could not get around to call before I went.

I read through and forwarded the beautiful memorial of William and gave it to me the other evening and I noticed that she had it through from cover to cover before taking it down and then she said that she wished she had Walter as Mayor of New York. Just think what he could have done if he were living and could have had all the enormous influence that was in his hands for the good of the city.

I had a very happy visit in Fairfield on the way back and saw all the Louren friends and connections there. I visited grandfather Spear's grave in the beautiful cemetery. It is kept in perfect condition. I could not get out in the country, however, to the old Thompson cemetery to see my great-grandmother Spear's grave. There was only a narrow road leading out to it and it was impassable in mud.

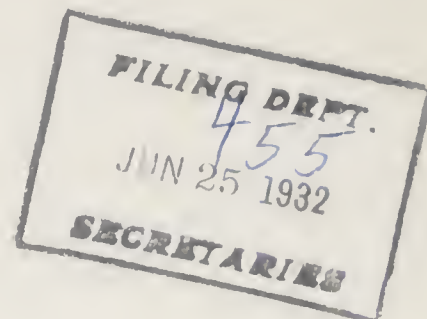
From Fairfield I drove to Iowa City to see of Louren where Robert Louren said there were Spear relatives and I found the dear old retired farmer named John Spear and his wife, whose father was my grandfather's brother. He had a son also living in Washington whom I met, he has a meat market there, and who with his wife are very pleasant and worthy people.

If you see Mother tell her I am very glad to hear from her and tell her how sorry I am that I could not see more of her.

Ever affectionately yours,

W. B.

June 21, 1932



My dearest Marnie,

Patty and Joan spent last night with us on their way from Baltimore to Lakeville. Billy drove down on Saturday with the open car to Princeton and spent Sunday morning there at some meetings that he wanted to attend and then drove on to Baltimore and brought Patty and Joan up yesterday, stopping at Susie's and Daisy's for luncheon. They had a car loaded full of possessions with Joan's crib on top. We had a very pleasant night Mrs. Kentrickson taking care of us all very well, and they got off before ten o'clock this morning. Patty and Joan are both very well. Joan is a very good, happy little girl. It is nice to think that she and Patty will have the whole summer together at Rockledge.

They would have gone off a little earlier this morning but Billy had to come over here to get his American Express checks and then had to go and catch his steamer ticket. Billy is sailing this coming Saturday for Glasgow. He will have a week with Elliott and Holly and then is going to the British Student Conferences, and then on to the Continent. He wants to spend some time in each of the Student work camps in Holland, attend another student conference in Austria and have some time in Geneva, taking some of the speaker classes and discussions there? He will come back in September in time for the opening of College.

Mia was in town this morning and I had a good long talk with her. I have not seen her husband since their marriage. He seems like a very sensible, satisfactory person.

Aunt Clara was at Clifton Springs for some time with an attack of shingles but is back in Huntington now, although I do not think she is feeling up to her usual mark of energy and punch. I must try to get out to see her some time this summer, if I can.

It is interesting to see the temper of the people these days. They never know so much business depression as there is now, and yet it is interesting to see how quietly and with what cheerful steadfastness everybody is trying to carry on. They do not know how much longer they can do it, or whether some vast collapse may not be coming, but everybody is holding on and gritting their teeth.

Uncle Ned was at the Board meeting yesterday and said that Aunt Lucy was going up to Lake Placid today and he hoped to join her next week. He was keeping very cheerful but I think he, like many others, feels that any moment the whole trust may break in. It is amazing how our Board has come along thus far. We are still dropping behind but it is only about 10% since April 1st, and I imagine that there are few, if any, benevolent organizations, or even business enterprises, that have been able to go on as, by the Grace of God, we have been able to do. There may be deeper testings ahead, but we are going on with faith and hope.

One can see the depression just looking out on the streets. There is an

much less traffic and business and movement than there usually is.

A number of the new taxes go into effect today. We must pay ten cents on every check now and extra for all cable messages and charges for all telegraph messages over a certain amount; with diminishing incomes and increasing taxes the only consolatory feature one finds is the rising low prices of things. But this has its dark side also, as it means that the farmer gets nothing, and that most things cannot be sold at all. Mr. Walcock, one of the large packers and processors, told me last week that it was not even worth while for the farmers to raise peaches, cherries because they could not get a sufficient price to cover the gathering of them, and that he could not even can water and sell it at the price which we all should get for sending cherries.

I read Sun Kuo through in one of my trips this winter and am greatly interested in it, although it certainly does annihilate the tradition of China's pacific past. It would be hard to find any other tale so full of war and assassination and treachery. The China of today is far better off than the China of yesterday.

With dearest love from us all,

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear,
Yenching University,
Peiping-Tset, China.

June 28, 1932

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SECRETARIE

Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dearest Mig.-

It was very good to get this morning your letter of yesterday. I came back from Lakeville on the train last evening, having spent Sunday and Monday there after going up Saturday afternoon as soon as Billy's steamer sailed. He came down on Friday from Rockledge and we had Friday evening and Saturday morning together and I saw him off on the Cameronia. Elliott will meet him in Glasgow with his car and drive him up to Lochlomond. They will be a week together there and then Elliott and his family will be sailing for home and Billy will go on with various student gatherings in England and Germany and Holland, and expects to have some time at Geneva for work in some of the summer Seminars there.

Patty and Joan are at Rockledge with Mum, and Joan is a very good, happy little girl. I am glad that they all can have the summer in such a comfortable, lovely place.

I was in Philadelphia last Wednesday afternoon and Ella stopped for me there on her way back from Baltimore, and I drove out to Piermont for the night. Margaret was planning to go down to Virginia for a visit and Ella and Dan were going to settle down for a time at least in the Piermont home, which now belongs jointly to Margaret and Ella, who have bought out Peggy's interests.

I have had several good letters from Aunt Clara and a number from Dorothy and was glad to get your word about Aunt Clara's health and to know that you think she is really beginning to pick up. I trust if she does not pick up fast enough she will go back to Clifton Springs, which she liked and where everything that can be done for her will be done there.

I wish I had remembered your wedding anniversary. I must make a note of it for another year: that will be your 35rd. We will be celebrating our 40th next year.

I am sorry to hear of Charlie's poisoning. I hope he is over it now and that you may have a good Fourth of July in Erie. I don't know when I can get out to Huntingdon again. I shall certainly come when I can.

June 28, 1932

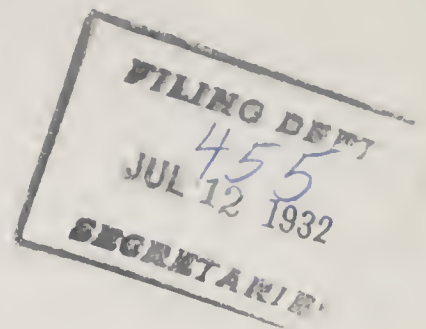
We had an amusing letter from Marnie a few days ago. She had gone with some Chinese friends to see a flower show in Peking. The Chinese friends were all unusually small so that Marnie stood out all the more conspicuously among them. The next day the Chinese papers contained an account of the show, which stated that among the visitors there were a number of foreigners - one of them a woman who was "eight feet high and a terrible sight." I wonder what they would have said if Billy had been there.

We have had a beautifully cool month thus far and I trust that the summer is not going to be a trying one. I expect to be here speaking in the Fifth Avenue Church during July, but shall be away for a week or more at Bible Conferences in August and then hope to get to Lakeville in September.

I don't have any time to repine as I am putting in every spare moment on the lecture course which I have to give at several of the theological seminaries this fall, and which is involving an immense amount of reading and hard work, which nevertheless is abundantly rewarding.

With a great deal of love to Charles and Barbara,

RES:B



July 1, 1932

Miss Margaret Pailey Spear,
Yenching University
Peiping, China.

My dearest Marnie:

Mr. Fenger has just been in and left a photograph of a picture which which he took, I imagine of the summer Palace, with you standing on the edge of the lake. He told me about his nice visit with you. He says he has now about 30,000 feet of pictures which he took on this trip. I shall be anxious to see the Yenching Film.

These June and July days are great days for missionary arrivals. Every week sees some party coming in - some weeks several parties. Some of the China missionaries have been coming the long way round and they are getting in now with the parties from India.

Billy got off safely last Saturday. He came down from Rockledge Friday morning as he had quite a little shopping to do: Bought himself a camera, which was Patty's present and a new bag so that he could travel with two bags and without a trunk, and then we had a nice evening together and the next morning I saw him off at noon on the Camaronia. It was a Scotch boat and a Scotch passenger list. As Billy and I were stopping at the purser's office while Billy was asking for mail, a man came up wanting change for a twenty dollar bill. I was able to help him. He was Scotch all right. He said, with a good Scotch burr that he had a friend to whom he wanted to give some money but he didn't want to give as much as \$20, and that was the only bill he had. There wasn't a soul that we could find that Billy knew in Boston, indicating that he was progressing all right. I enclose also a letter from Bill Bryan which mother sent me. Billy's plan is to spend a week with Elliott, who will meet him with his car in Glasgow; then go to Swanwick, and then to the student conferences in Germany and then, I think, to one or two other gatherings and then to Geneva for some serious work there.

I spent last Sunday and Monday at Rockledge. Patty and Joan were very happy and mother writes that they are all having a lovely time.

Mrs. Stephen Baker and some of the Y. M. C. A. people were there on Tuesday for a committee meeting. Bob is expecting to get up for the second Sunday in July. I am afraid I shall not be able to get back until the 7th of July for a day or two. The offices will be closed tomorrow and Monday but as I have to be here on Sunday I cannot get the advantage of these days in the country. I shall be working here on the Princeton lectures. Just now I am going through the biographies of the great out-standing missionaries from St. Patrick down, to note the two points - first, what their view of Christ and the Gospel was, and second, what attitude they took toward other religions. The story is an unvarying one until one gets to the end of the

July 1, 1932

nineteenth century with the influence of the new theology and studies in comparative religion and the radical changes which then began to take place in the non-Christian religions.

We have had several warm days this week but with light clothing and electric fans things have been very comfortable in the office, and I have had a beautiful breeze every evening in the apartment.

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of The Presbyterian Magazine containing a brief article of mother's on the Y. W. C. A. Convention in Minneapolis and reporting also the meetings of the General Assembly.

Dr. Swearingen's death will be a very great loss. We had no more useful man in the Church than he.

Anita Inman is to be married this afternoon in the Union Seminary Chapel and I must try to get up to the wedding.

Financially, of course, the conditions are very dark. It is amazing to see how the Board has come along thus far. We are still dropping behind but it is only about 10% since April 1st, and I imagine that there are few, if any, benevolent organizations, or even business enterprises, that has been able to go on as, by the Grace of God, we have been able to do. There may be deeper testings ahead but we are going on with faith and hope.

One can see the depression just looking out on the streets. There is much less traffic and business and movement than there usually is.

A number of the new taxes have gone into effect. We must pay two cents on every check now and extra for all cable messages and charges for all telephone messages over a certain amount; with diminishing incomes and increasing taxes the only consolatory feature one finds is the amazing low price of things. But this has its dark side also, as it means that the farmer gets nothing, and that many things cannot be sold at all. Mr. Babcock, one of the large packers and preservers, told me last week that it was not even worth while for the farmer to pay to gather cherries because they could not get a sufficient price to cover the gathering of them, and that he could not even can water and sell it at the price which was all he could get for canning cherries.

Everybody is holding on courageously and grimly and many people are wondering how long they can continue to do so. The Congregationalists and Methodists are in a very difficult plight. The Congregationalists are closing six of their stations, six institutions and withdrawing 68 missionaries, and cutting all salaries and home allowances and pensions. The Methodist Board seems to be having the most difficult time of all. Two members of their Board told me of their last meeting a fortnight ago which they said was the most painful meeting they had ever held. They were facing another decrease of over 35% in receipts and I believe in addition to all the cuts already imposed were now levying another. One wonders whether to be thankful that we have been spared what others have had to bear, or whether to wonder what God's lesson for us may be.

Dr. Scott says that Yenching is within \$5,000 now of the \$270,000 which had to be raised to meet the Rockefeller pledge. This is an amazing achievement in these present times.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer

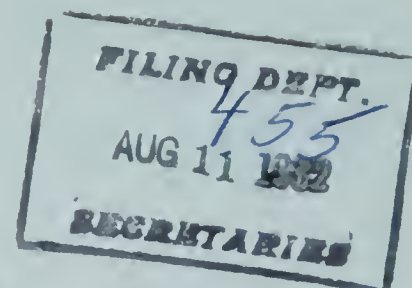
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July 1, 1932

Uncle Ned has gone off to join Aunt Lucy at Lake Placid, facing all the present conditions very bravely although he thinks the skies are just about as black as they could possibly be.

With dearest love,

ESSB



August 5, 1952
(Dict. August 4)

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peiping West,
Hoped, China.

My dearest Marnie:

We have all been distressed to learn from Augusta's letter to mother of your attack of dysentery, but are relieved to know that you had gone at once to the P. U. M. C., and that although the treatment had been painful, it had been salutary and that you were well on the upgrade. I trust that this isn't going to pull you down too much and that you can go back to Peitaiho and have a real rest. Please tell the Fergusons how grateful we are to them for all their kindness to you.

We were happy to learn through a letter from Mrs. Lee to mother that Miss Soe Hoo had accepted the call to the office of Dean of the women and that you would not have to take on that additional load. I trust that she may prove really efficient and that it may not be necessary for you to gather up after her or to do her work for her.

I spent last week-end at Rockledge. The four little girls are perfectly happy and as good as children can be. Mother is having a beautiful time with them and getting more exercise than if she had a private gymnasium with a special trainer. I see that she gets up and down stairs with a great deal more agility. Elliott stopped for Friday night on his way to Northfield where I think Holly was expecting to join him this week so that they could help to get the new home all in order. Patty was to take the three little girls some time this week half way to Glen Summit where Mrs. Wells' car would meet them to take them for a visit with their other grandparents until the Mount Harmon home is ready.

Saturday and Sunday were beautiful days. While we were at luncheon Sunday, we had a perfect cloudburst of a rain, which washed the whole world around us and left everything fresh and green. I wish you could see the flowers now. The phlox is in bloom and the hollyhocks and the marigolds and zinnias. The poppies are nearly over but other flowers are still to come. I spoke for Mr. Chiara at the Episcopal church in the morning, Dr. Birnie preaching in the other church for Mr. Pearman.

I went to a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria last evening in honor of Mrs. Buck, given by Mr. Walsh, the head of John Day Company publishing house which issued Mrs. Buck's two novels. She made a very nice speech, but the room was a very difficult room to hear in. There must have been two or three hundred people there representing chiefly the publishing trade but with a good sprinkling of missionary folk. Dr. and Mrs. Merrill were there and said a nice word about you.

Ella came in this morning for a talk about things at Piedmont and Alpine. She is a dear child and is trying to work things out now for her mother in a way that will make her happy in spite of Ella's marriage and the break-up of that long relationship which was almost an identity between Ella and her mother.

The weather continues very comfortable, with hot sunshine in the streets but with everything very pleasant as high up in the air as I am, both at home and here in the office, and with awnings and electric fans whenever they are needed.

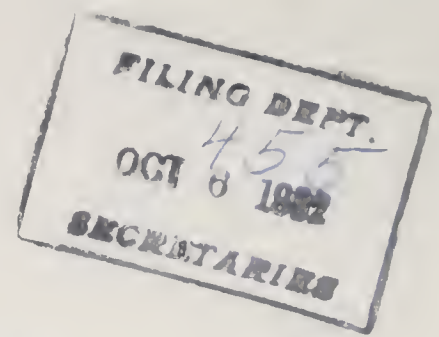
August 5, 1932

The lectures are going very well. I am drawing near the end now of the last one, although it and the four other lectures have lengthened out far beyond my original plan so that I may have to cut each of them in two. I have just been quoting a strong passage on Hinduism and Buddhism from Schweitzer's little book, "Christianity and the Religions of the World." It is interesting to see the impression that was made on him by the strong evangelical note in the religious mind of China as he turned from pantheism and its consequent moral confusion in India. He writes: "Let me tell you that to become acquainted with these thinkers was for me a vital experience. Especially Lao Tsz and Meng Tsz fascinated me. They are much nearer to us than the Indian philosophers, for they do not move in an atmosphere of arrogant negation of life and world, but are battling with philosophy, therein to attain to really ethical piety." I think I shall be pretty sure to get into trouble with the "Christian Century" and all that group as a result of these lectures. Dr. Merrill tells me that he has had some of this same experience in some of his associations of late. And he quoted with approval the saying of Ed Lobenstine's to him, "I am willing for any man to take Buddha as his Moses but I am not willing for him to take Buddha as his Christ."

Henry and Jo left last Sunday night. We had a little farewell for Rex and Connie Wheeler and their three boys on Tuesday of this week. It is quite a venture for them to turn back to China now after these years away, but Rex's heart is there. I hope that he and Connie will be able to do a good and needed work in Nanking. Christian love and Christian faith will have a reinforcement wherever Rex is.

Elliott's two boxes of books which were missing from his baggage when he arrived have turned up safely and he ought to be getting them now in a few days.

RES:AMW



October 4, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China.

My dearest Narnie:

Billy went back to Princeton Sunday afternoon from Rockledge, a college friend who had been spending the week-end at Great Barrington stopping for him in his car. They were driving down to Rye for supper and were expecting to get back to Princeton on the evening train. It was a great relief to learn from the X-Ray in the Sharon Hospital that no bones had been broken.

After he was gone I took a little walk to call on several of our neighbors. One of them made us a fine donation of quinces last week, when mother could not get any in the village, and I took him a glass of the quince preserve. Then there was a nice farmer family who had just built a little home back on the hillside and who have been good friends ever since we came to know them: so I took a nice Japanese picture up to hang on the wall of their new house. We have very nice friendly neighbors all about us and it is a joy to feel their friendliness and goodwill.

I came back Monday morning leaving Daisy making preparations for the day's journey which she and Mother Susie were to make in their car as far as Buck Hill Falls on their way back to Germantown. Mother Susie is failing very much. She does not enter in a conversation any more but just sits smiling and passive like a little child. Daisy is a miracle of love and tenderness and patience in caring for her.

The Monday papers contained in full two chapters of the Lytton Report to the League of Nations on the quarrel between China and Japan and I am sending you these herewith under separate cover as you may not have seen the full text of these chapters.

*mailed
10/5/32*

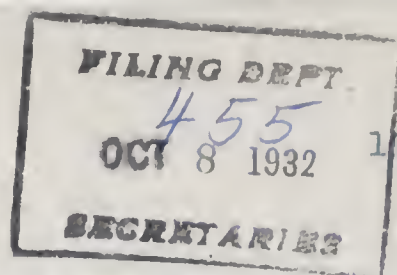
Mrs. Hendrickson had cleaned the apartment yesterday thoroughly so that it was spic and span when I went home in the evening. I don't think I will start in housekeeping in the matter of meals until mother comes back. I have to be away a good deal - shall be away every week-end in whole or in part so that it is hardly worth while stocking up with food supplies.

I am hoping that mother will stay on through the month at Rockledge and get a real rest. She has had people in the house all summer long and while it has been a joy to have them she ought to have a real let down for a few weeks. Miss Clara Reed was coming to stay with her this week and I shall get back for the week-end following.

With dearest love from us all,

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear

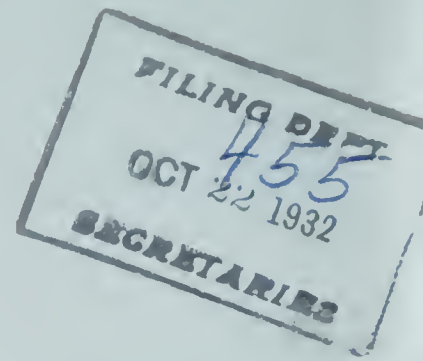
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Postscript.

I have just had a call from an old college friend, the Rev. Walter Lowrie, cousin of Dr. J. Walter Lowrie of North China. This Walter grew up in a strong Pennsylvania home but passed over to the Episcopal ministry and was for many years rector of the American Episcopal Church in London. He has retired now from the active ministry but has been writing and lecturing, especially in the General Theological Seminary area. He is deeply interested in Barth and Kierkegaard.

I judge that he and Mrs. Lowrie have ample means and they are leaving New York for another visit to Europe next month, and expecting to reach China in January and to spend six months or more in Peiping. They are hoping to find an adequate home in the city, in some high class Chinese house with modern conveniences. They are interested in everything religious, intellectual and artistic, and I know would be glad to meet Dr. Ferguson. I am sure you will be glad to meet them and to help them in any way. They have been in correspondence with Dr. Stuart and I think Dr. Lowrie met him when he was last here. Dr. Stuart heartily encouraged their coming. You will find them, to my thinking, very congenial and I think that Dr. Lowrie's scholarship and theological conviction will be a helpful influence in supplying breadth and correction to the dangers of a too humanistic and immanent construction of Christ and God's activity. They will be going to the Hotel at first in Peiping and will no doubt let Dr. Stuart know at once of their arrival. Will you see that they meet Dr. Ferguson?



October 11, 1932
(Dict. Oct. 10)

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peiping West,
Hopei, China.

My dearest Marnie:

Since writing to you last, mother sent me your good letter telling how everything was starting off at Yenching. It was very good to hear from you and to know that Miss Soo-Hoo has taken hold so well as the new Dean. I enclose copy of a letter from her to Mrs. Lee which may be of interest to you.

Mother writes that she had an anxious time with Fanny last week. She came down with what first looked like pneumonia, but a few days good care in the Sharon Hospital, where there are no race distinctions or discriminations, set her up, and when mother telephoned on Friday evening she reported that Fanny seemed to be quite herself again. Mother has been alone this last week with Fanny and Carrie except, I think, Miss Clara Reed came toward the end of the week for a little visit with her.

We learned at the end of the week that Billy had been in the infirmary at Princeton on account of his ankle and the doctor had put it in a cast. I went down early Saturday morning to see him but found that Bill Bryan had taken him to Atlantic City to a conference of headmasters of preparatory schools who were considering the question of religion in their schools. Elliott was there, but put Billy on a train Saturday morning for New York that he might go up to Lakeville and get one of the cars to take down to Princeton so he could use it for getting around as long as his leg is incapacitated. I got Elliott on the telephone at Atlantic City and learned this and came back to New York with Billy and saw him on the train for Lakeville. Elliott has just called up to say that he spent last night in Princeton but Billy had got down very comfortably with the car. Elliott was on his way back to Northfield on the late afternoon train.

After seeing Billy off, I went over to Pottstown to speak yesterday morning in the Hill School. I had dinner after chapel with Mrs. John Meggs and two of the boys, one of them Stewart Baker's son. I told them about the time in his grandfather's house when his Uncle Charley told Stewart to kiss you before he went off to school. I can remember still Charley calling out across the table in his jovial way as Stewart was gingerly shaking hands with you, "Kiss her, you chump! Kiss her!"

I hope to get up to Rockledge for this week-end and trust that I may find mother's knee and feet improved. All her friends are prescribing their specialist doctors and their particular modes of treatment, ranging all the way from serums to the Hay diet.

I enclose herewith a little abstract which Dr. Scott prepared which may be of interest to you, and also Mrs. Wells' letter to mother after she brought Holly and the children over to Rockledge on their way to Mt. Hermon.

The first publicity releases of the report of the Appraisal Commission are already causing discussion. The first of them declared "that these

Miss M. B. Speer - 2.

October 11, 1932

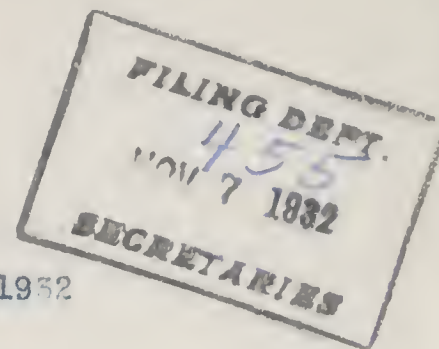
Missions should go on, with whatever changes, we regard, therefore, as beyond serious question. There is in this fact, however, no ground for a renewed appeal for the support, much less for the enlargement, of these missions in their present form and on their present basis." The second release declared as "one of the outstanding requirements of the future the necessity that the modern mission make a positive effort, first of all, to know and understand the religions around it and then to recognize and associate itself with whatever kindred elements there are in them." It goes on to declare "how necessary it has become for every religion to be aware of and to stand upon the common ground of all religions." Thus far I think there have been no conferences with regard to the report except among those responsible for its preparation and its issue. There will no doubt be many such conferences in the near future.

Patty writes that Joan is walking about now in great independence. I left letters from Patty and Bob with Billy to send on to Elliott and for Elliott to send on to you.

I expect to be in Princeton tomorrow at meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary. The next day is a holiday but I have a dentist appointment and a Federal Council Meeting and then an evening speaking engagement in a church in Ridgewood, N. J.

With dearest love -

RES:AMW



November 3, 1932

Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street,
Huntingdon, Penna.

My dearest Mig,

On my way home from the General Assembly last June, I stopped to visit our cousins the Loudens in Fairfield and on my way from there to Iowa City, where I was to preach the Baccalaureate Sermon in the State University, I stopped at Washington, Iowa, to look up some relatives there. I found a dear old man, named James Speer and his wife, and their son, Mr. C. A. Speer and his wife Myrtle. I had a good, but all too short visit with them and later Myrtle sent me quite a little information together with an old photograph of Agnes Speer, our great grandmother. I have had some copies of this photograph made and enclose one herewith. Grandmother Speer, as you know, is buried at Cassville, and grandfather Speer in Fairfield. Great Grandmother Speer is buried a country cemetery a few miles out of Fairfield, to which I could not go because it is not on a state road and the country roads are impossible. I send herewith one of the copies of the photograph for you to keep. You can see where you acquired your literary taste, although I would judge that great grandmother was picking out the words with her finger, unless may be this is a copy of the scriptures and she is laying her finger on some important verse.

I went up to Lakeville last Thursday evening and Emma and I drove up last Friday to Mt. Hermon to spend the weekend with Elliott and Holly. There was a meeting of the Trustees on Saturday and Sunday morning we had a very nice service for the installation of Elliott as headmaster. Unfortunately he was in bed with grip, but the doctor allowed him to get up Sunday morning to be at chapel for the hour of the service.

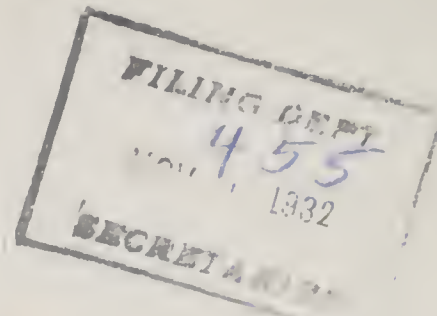
They have a lovely home and the three little girls are dear. Caroline, who is ten now, is showing a fine sense of responsibility to help Holly.

We drove back to Rockledge Monday morning and came back to New York together that afternoon.

Emma thinks that she got a great deal of good from Dr. Locke in Canada, where she went with a friend from Lakeville to see if he could help them with his famous foot manipulations. I had to go away at once on our return to meetings in Pittsburgh the last two days in connection with the proposed union of our Church and the **United Presbyterian Church**, and only returned this morning.

With dearest love to all,

RES:C.



November 7, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University,
Peiping, China

My dearest Marnie:

I wrote you yesterday a week ago from Mount Hermon where mother and I were spending a beautiful week-end with Elliott and Holly. We drove back to Rockledge Monday morning - a perfect fall day, and came home to New York together on the afternoon train. I had to leave the same evening for Pittsburgh for a two day meeting in connection with the proposed union of our own and the United Presbyterian Church. We met some of the worst snags that we have encountered in the whole negotiations but I think we were led to find wise ways of dealing with them. The two committees at any rate were satisfied and we are hoping now that the new proposals which were made will meet the objections which have been raised in one or the other of the two Churches. We have a fine company of representatives of our own Church on the Committee and the men from the United Presbyterian Church are as Christian and responsive as men could be. One member of our Presbyterian Church group is old Dr. Thompson, for many years President of the University of Ohio, a most picturesque and vigorous character. He has been a life-long Republican but told me he was not going to vote for any candidate; that he was disgusted with all parties and all politics. Yet he has been one of the most sagacious and high-minded educational politicians that we have known. One of his quaint remarks was that it was preposterous for either a nation or an individual to think that he could borrow himself out of debt.

Martha Bailey came to luncheon with us on Saturday and she and mother went together to a Rachmaninoff Concert in Carnegie Hall in the afternoon, which mother said was simply superb. I had to take an afternoon train to Bethlehem where I spoke in the old Moravian Church on the occasion of the Bicentennial of the Moravian Missions. I staid with your dear friends Dr. and Mrs. Se Sch einitz there with whom mother and I spent a wonderful Easter time hearing Bach music many years ago and where Billy and I spent a Sunday once when he was a small boy and we were at home alone together.

I had to come back last evening as there is to be a special meeting of the Board today to consider the Report of the Appraisal Commission of which I am sending you a copy herewith. It is emerging that the Appraisal Commission was by no means unanimous. Dr. Merrill dissented absolutely from the position of the first four chapters and various members of the Commission have objected to what the Laymen's Inquiry has done in the way of sensational publicity.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer

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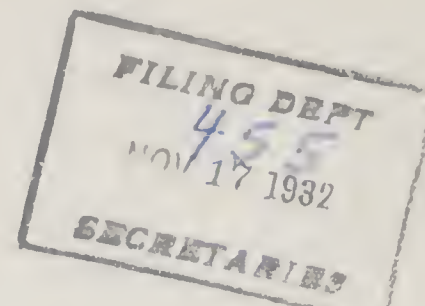
November 7, 1932

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have just written to Dr. Warnshuis briefly regarding the Report, and send also two statements which I prepared as though the Board might adopt them. Please tear these up when you have read them. I don't know that they will even get as far as the Board.

Mother will have written you regarding Mrs. Duck's address at the Luncheon. The New York Times yesterday contained an editorial commenting upon it barring its title from it - "The Best or None." That an impossible formula that is. What missionary would be fit to send out to the field who regarded himself or herself as qualified under such a formula and what human agency of any sort whatsoever could operate on such a basis? Matrimony certainly would not for either party has to be content with the best that is available, not with the ideal best which exists nowhere except in heaven or in Plato's world of ideas.

With dearest love,

FES:B



November 14, 1932

Miss Margeret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dearest Marnie:

I don't remember whether I got a letter off to you last week so I must tell you the news beginning with Sunday, November 6th. I went over for that day to Bethlehem, Pa., to the Bi-Centennial of the Missions of the Moravian Church, spending Saturday night with my dear friends Dr. and Mrs. de Schweinitz, and speaking at the anniversary services in the old Moravian Church on Sunday morning. In the afternoon I went around to the beautiful archives building of the Church and in looking over the Minutes of their Missionary Society found the following: lovely record in the minutes of the meeting of June 4, 1748, referring to the death of David Brainerd, a great missionary to the Indians at the confluence of the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers. The record ran -

"Mr. Brainhard's decease and his honest labors amongst the Indians were spoken of. It is to be feared that the Indians he has labored amongst, being now fallen into the hands of the Presbyterians, will be filled with head knowledge, and therefore the distressed difficulty of these poor souls we have particularly to bear on our hearts."

I came home in the evening as I had to be here at the all day meeting of the Board on November 7th to consider the Report of the Appraisal Commission, and that reminds me that I did write you because I remember sending you a number of papers on the subject.

Mother and I had a nice but short visit to Rockledge on Election Day and are planning to go up again at the end of this week, when I am speaking on Sunday at Hotchkiss in the morning and at Ed Pulling's School in the afternoon.

Wednesday evening I was in Germantown at the Bi-Centennial of the Market Square Church. It was raining fiercely and I arrived just in time to speak and I had to come immediately back to New York so that I did not see Susie and Daisy.

Friday I had to be in Clifton Springs at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Sanitarium. We have to find a new superintendent to take the place of Dr. Liechty, who died and who was a most efficient head. We are considering the possibility of Adrian Taylor. Did you know him when he was in the P.U.M.C. and if so what would you think of him for such an important place?

I could not get to the Princeton-Yale game on Saturday, which Patty and Bob attended with Billy, but I listened to it over the radio while I was doing some other work until it got so exciting that I had to drop everything else. It was hard luck that Princeton didn't win when two or three times she was within a yard of the Yale goal, but could not get over. Still it was good, however, that the game ended in a draw which I think gave Yale a little more than Yale deserved.

Saturday evening mother and I went to a large dinner at the Colony Club and from there to the meeting celebrating the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association in Carnegie Hall, which was filled with the members and friends of the Young Women's Christian Association. Mother made a little speech and introduced representatives of the different divisions of the work, and the program, though it had a half-dozen or more speakers on it, was carried through in about an hour and a quarter.

Sunday morning a friend in New Rochelle sent in his car for us and we drove out there where I spoke in the Church and we had dinner and then drove back to town again. It was a lovely day and we had a very happy time with the New Rochelle friends.

In the evening Aunt Caroline came: One of her daughters is having a glandular operation in Roosevelt Hospital and Aunt Caroline will be spending the week with mother as I am leaving this afternoon for a meeting of the General Assembly of our Church in Chicago.

We have had a very wet and cloudy month of November thus far and Fenton recited a dreary poem on the subject in the elevator the other day. Saturday and yesterday and today, however, have been perfect days. Aunt Caroline was at the game on Saturday and said that in spite of the lovely day there were thousands of seats in the Stadium unoccupied.

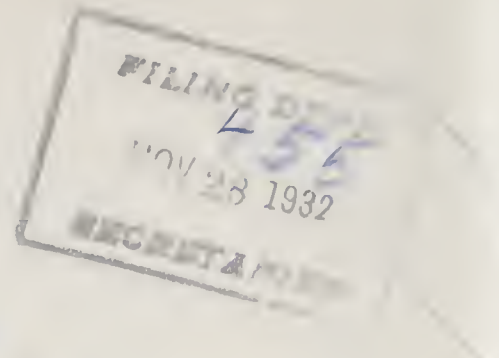
I enclose a copy of the treasurer's financial statement as of November first, which will show you that we have been falling behind. Our poor Methodist neighbors across the street, however, are in a terrible plight and I believe are having to face another heavy reduction, which will reduce their entire work to only a quarter or a fifth of what it was a few years ago.

Miss Woodsmall was at the dinner on Saturday night and was one of the speakers at the evening meeting. She told me of her happy visit with you in Poughing.

With dearest love,

MES:B

Dictated by Dr. Spaer
Signed in his absence



November 22, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, West, China

My dearest Marnie:

I sent you yesterday the Sunday New York Times Supplements and am sending you today two pages from yesterday's Times containing the address which Lord Lytton made in Geneva last Sunday and the official summary of Japan's reply to the Lytton Report. Perhaps you get all these things fully in some Peiking paper. 11/22/32

I had two interesting days last week at the meeting of our General Council in Chicago. Dr. Kerr was there and we had some very interesting discussions over the matter of prohibition, the Appraisal Commission's Report of the Laymen's Foreign Missions Inquiry, and the financial and spiritual problems of the Church. One of the most useful members of the Council, Mr. Frederick B. Shipp of Pittsburgh, who has been a warm friend of mine for forty-three years, was taken suddenly ill in the midst of our meetings and died several days later in a Chicago hospital as the result of cancer of which neither he nor the doctors had had any knowledge or warning.

I got back from Chicago on Thursday and Friday evening and Saturday morning mother and I spent at the meetings at the Roosevelt Hotel at which the members of the Appraisal Commission and of the Laymen's Foreign Missions Inquiry made explanations of their report. As was to be expected, these wholly satisfied some people and proved wholly unsatisfactory to others. There was no opportunity for any discussion or there would have been some very discordant views expressed. Various members of the Commission made addresses and then written questions were submitted and answered but in most cases there had been no opportunity for the answerer to see the questions in advance and he was at a disadvantage in making any competent reply.

Friday night and Saturday morning we had a perfect deluge of rain and it was coming down in sheets when mother and I drove up Saturday afternoon to the Grand Central Station to take the afternoon train to Millerton. Before we got to Millerton there was a rainbow in the sky and Sunday was one perfect day. Good faithful Bill had milk and butter and eggs, from our own chickens, and a pie and a cake and canned vegetables enough to last us for a week. I spoke at the School in the morning and we had dinner there and then Ed Pulling and his wife came for us and I spoke at his school at five and then we caught the evening train from Dover Plains.

I had a fine starting point in talking to the boys on religion and Christianity in telling them of a conference which I attended in Chicago last Tuesday evening between eight Jewish Rabbis and ten representatives of Christian denominations to discuss the matter of race and religious relationships. We had no trouble over race, there being general agreement that there was practically no anti-semitic prejudices in the United States that was racial as such; that what prejudice there was was against individuals who were unpleasant and ungentlemanly, and that this prejudice was the same whether the individual

November 22, 1932

was a Jew, or a German, or an Italian, or an American. When it came to the question of religious relationships the Rabbis had their own troubles among themselves - some of them were orthodox Jews, and others reformed Jews of different degrees of modernism, and they had to admit that great masses of Jews were either agnostics or atheists. Any common religious basis for Jews, if there was any which was very much to be doubted, would be so small if racial elements were eliminated, as to be useless for purposes of common religious action. I was trying to define for the boys what is really left when you eliminate the historic elements in religion and try to find a common theological or metaphysical or even practical common denominator, and I was trying to point out that in reality Christianity was never meant to be a religion at all and that the word is not found in the Gospels; that religion is a question and Christ is not a question but an answer.

We had a long meeting of our Board yesterday afternoon lasting from half past one until after five, considering again the Report of the Appraisal Commission. There were some who were for disavowing and repudiating it altogether and there were some who were for ignoring its unsatisfactory elements and saying only favorable things with regard to it. In the end, however, all came to a common agreement and the enclosed statement was adopted without dissent.

I see that the Methodist and Baptist Boards have both acted, saying that they could by no means accept the whole report but without specifying either their positive position or their points of assent as our Board has tried to do in its action.

Billy is coming up tomorrow afternoon and we are going up to Rockledge for the rest of the week. I want to get time to write out a careful, sympathetic, appreciative and yet objectively critical review of the whole report for one of the January magazines:

Mrs. Sibley made one of the best addresses at the conference at the Roosevelt Hotel but it came Saturday afternoon after mother and I had had to leave. She was full of enthusiasm in her references to you

I sent you the other day a box of stockings which mother had got and I enclose, in case you need it for customs purposes, the purchase memorandum. Miss Connell gave the boy instructions to insure the package for \$10. but he failed to do this. I hope, however, that it will reach you safely.

Day before yesterday was your birthday and we were thinking about you and mother had already sent you a short message of birthday love.

With dearest love from us all,

RES:B

455
1932
SECRETARIES

November 28, 1932
(Dict. Nov. 22)

Mrs. Robert W. Speer,
Denver,
Colorado.

My dear Kate:

I wish that you could have seen the blue morning-glory! It was one of the most beautiful things on our place. Every visitor looked at it with admiration and envy, but alas, alas, the frost came and killed it before we could get any seeds. Every evening we wrapped it up so that it looked like a mummy to protect it, but the cold came too soon, and it was killed in its glory. Have you any more of those seeds that you could spare? If so, we will start them earlier next year in the hope that we can get our own seeds for the future and for our friends.

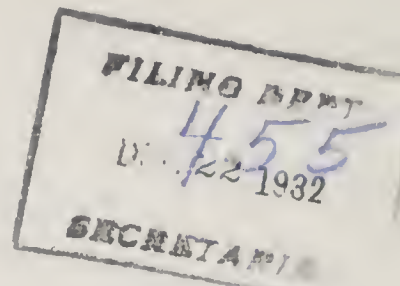
I have just been reading about Walter in Lincoln Steffens' autobiography. Mr. Steffens tears so many people to pieces that it is nice to see his respect and admiration for Walter. What a rich memory we have of him? Wherever one meets any Denver people, Walter's name is sufficient passport.

We had a beautiful summer at Lakeville. Emma was there from May until November. I got up occasionally and had the whole month of September. Our flowers never were more glorious. We had fifty different varieties, and I counted thirty different articles of food that the place produced in the garden, in the orchard, in the chicken-yard, in the little bit of woods. Emma and William and I are going up this week to spend Thanksgiving and the week-end there.

With warm regard from Emma and myself -

Ever affectionately yours,

RES:ANW



December 10, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Spoor
Yenching University
Peiping, West, China

My dearest Marnie:

I think it is just about a week since I wrote you last dictating at home. I haven't had dictation times at home nearly as much since we came to town as I used to have in Englewood.

After writing you I went off with Billy to the Pennsylvania Railroad Station and got safely to Asheville Sunday morning last. I spoke that morning at the Asheville School of which Dr. Bement is Headmaster, who was formerly at The Hill, and who is a brother-in-law of Mr. Creelman at Hotchkiss. I did not have very much voice to speak with but managed to get through the morning chapel service in the School and a crowded evening meeting in the First Presbyterian Church, whose pastor is an old friend of more than forty years. The next morning I spoke for Dumont Clarke and Jim McClure at the Annual Meeting in the interest of The Lord's Acre Movement of the Farmers' Federation of western North Carolina. This is a most interesting piece of work. Jim has organized the farmers for cooperative work and cooperative marketing of their products and Dumont is helping them to develop the support of their Churches and Schools by means of setting aside a piece of land, the produce of which will go to this purpose: Sometimes it isn't a piece of land but a setting hen, or a pig, or a calf, which is set aside and fed and sold. We had a church full of people with a lovely spirit. Evidently they have got hold of a real working idea, which is full of the power of social reconstruction.

I found a good throat specialist in Asheville who gave me some relief but I never have had an attack of laryngitis which has hung on like this. However, it hasn't downed me yet and I have gone through with all the engagements.

From Asheville I went to Indianapolis to the meeting of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and spoke there Wednesday evening and got back here Thursday night, spending the time on the train correcting the proof of a long article which I wrote Thanksgiving week-end at Rockledge on an appraisal of the Report of the Appraisal Commission. It will take up some fifteen or twenty pages in the January issue of "The Missionary Review." I will send you a copy of it as soon as it is out.

I found mother very well and spry, thanks to Dr. Locke and her new shoes.

We are going down to Princeton this afternoon to spend Sunday and Monday with the Stevensons. I am speaking at the Seminary tomorrow and then shall be giving the Stone Lectures at five o'clock each afternoon. I shall have to come back here in the evening to get in the mornings at the office. Two nights during the week I expect to repeat two of the lectures at the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick.

Elliott writes that he is sending you a copy of his letter of December 9th to me and asks me to enclose a clipping from some newspaper.

Mr. Steele has just brought me the book which you ordered for me for Christmas entitled "The Autobiography of a Chinese Historian. I am delighted to have this. Dr. Hummel who translated it I judge is the man who used to be at the University of Nanking, is he not? I shall read the autobiography with delight. I have already been dipping into it.

I showed mother several books which I had laid out for you. She said to send The Life of Pasteur, which I did some time ago. I think it is one of the noblest biographies I have ever read.

It is good to know that the new Chinese Dean of Women is doing so well. I trust that it means a real lightening of your load.

With dearest love from us all,

RES:B

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455
DEC 22 1932
SECRETARIES

December 19, 1932

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, West, China

My dearest Marnie:

The past week has been one busy, crowded week from first to last. Mother and I went down to Princeton on Saturday, the 10th, to spend Sunday with the Stevensons. I spoke in the Seminary in the morning and then in the afternoon we went to two beautiful musical services - one, organ, violin and piano in Proctor Hall - the glorious refectory of the graduate college; and the other, the Vesper Service of Christmas carols by the Westminster Choir in the University Chapel, which was packed to the doors. This is the Choir which used to be in Dayton, Ohio, and then moved to Ithaca, and is now settled in Princeton where they are going a remarkable work. They sung the Messiah in the University Chapel on Tuesday evening, and again yesterday afternoon. They are transforming the music in all the Churches and in the Seminary and the Vesper Services at the University Chapel are crowded week after week. Their singing is perfectly heavenly.

Mother and I staid down for Monday and the first of the Stone Lectures came Monday evening. The Seminary Chapel was too small so the lecture was held in the First Church at five o'clock and we had a good attendance then and for each of the four succeeding evenings. The general title of the lectures was "The Finality of Jesus Christ and the five subjects were as follows:

The Church's Conception of Christ in the First Two Centuries.
The Attitude of Primitive Christianity toward non-Christian Religions.
The View of Christian and Non-Christian Religions which generated and Sustained the Expansion of Christianity
Can we still hold the Primitive View of Christ?
What View then shall we take Today of Non-Christian Religions?

Mother and I came back to New York on Monday evening, and I went down each afternoon of the following days. Two evenings, Wednesday and Thursday, I stopped in New Brunswick on the way back and repeated the second and the fifth lectures.

I saw Billy each day. College closed on Friday and Saturday he went down to Baltimore to spend a week with Patty. He will come up with Patty and Joan on Friday afternoon and Bob will come up that evening or on the night train and we will take the nine o'clock train Saturday morning for Northfield. Mr. and Mrs. Wells and Laird and Kay and their children will be there and to the delight of all of us Miss Alice Davison is going also.

December 19, 1932

As soon as I got back from Princeton last Friday evening I had to take a train for Clifton Springs for a meeting at the Sanitarium on Saturday to confer with Dr. Adrien Taylor who used to be in the Southern Baptist Mission in China and then in the P.U.M.C. He has accepted the superintendency, and I think will prove an admirable man. Dr. Chamberlain and I came back together Saturday afternoon through a snowstorm and found the city buried in snow.

Yesterday morning I went out in a sparkling glorious winter day to speak at Ridgewood, getting home in time for dinner. Mother went up for a Christmas concert of the People's Chorus at Carnegie Hall in the afternoon.

The discussion over the Appraisal Commission's Report goes on very earnestly. I will send you a copy of the January issue of "The Missionary Review" with a long article which I have written, and I enclose a copy of a letter from Dr. Hocking. I wrote to him after the meeting of November 18th telling him that I would have to take some positions at variance with those of the Report, and that this must not interfere with the warmth and continuance of our friendship. This is his reply.

Aunt Mig sent us a fine big basket of Huntingdon County apples which have a better flavor than apples from the Pacific Coast.

We are getting ready for Christmas and I have sent off almost all of my packages. Mother told me that the morning mail brought Christmas cards which you had so thoughtfully sent to Mrs. Hendrickson and Mrs. Erickson. Mrs. Hendrickson could not give us as much time as last year so we have a new maid now, a very nice Scotch girl who lives in the house and gives all her time, greatly to mother's comfort.

With dearest love and the assurance that there will be many loving thoughts about you at Christmas time.

RES:B

FILING DEPT
455
JAN 3 1933
SECRETARIES

December 31, 1932
(Dict. Dec. 29)

Mrs. Robert W. Speer,
Denver,
Colorado.

My dear Kate:

It has been very good to get the newspaper clippings with regard to Speer Day and your gift of the chimes to the city in Walter's memory. I have read the articles with fresh pride in all that Walter was and did in his strong, rich life for the city that he loved so much. I wish that I could have been there to see the honor that was paid to his memory.

We have had a very happy Christmas. All of us were together in Elliott's home at Northfield, Emma and I and all the children and grandchildren, with the exception of Margaret who is in China.

We are hoping to go up this week-end to our little home near Lakeville where your morning glory was one of the most beautiful things last summer. Please don't forget to send me some more seeds if you have any, so that we can plant them earlier this year and see if we cannot get some seed ourselves before the frost comes.

Mig wrote me a few days ago of the death of Mame Adams in Mount Union. She has not been at all well, and Mig wrote as though it had been a great relief to Mame to have her sufferings ended.

With Best Wishes for a Happy New Year -

Ever affectionately yours,

RES:AMW

Dictated by Mr. Speer
Signed in his absence

FILING DEPT
455
JAN 12 1933
SECRETARIES

January 9, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, West, China

My dearest Marnie:

This morning brought your good letter of December 11th with the accompanying pictures which we were delighted to have. I read it at the breakfast table. I am sorry that you are so driven all the time and wish you could find some way of easing up the pressure so as to have a little free time each day. Would it not be possible to schedule an hour just as conscientiously and rigidly as the hours in the curriculum are scheduled, when you would be absolutely free?

There have been happy and busy days since I last wrote you. Mother and Billy and I went up to Rockledge on Friday, December 30th and Billy came down Monday morning as he had a luncheon engagement and an afternoon appointment with the Fosdicks, and mother and I came down in the afternoon. We had two and a half happy, restful days and I got a great deal of work done. Saturday it was a cloudy rainy day and I worked on the Memoir of Dr. Charles Lewis, which I have almost ready now for a publisher. I gave the final revision to the first seven chapters and was more interested than ever in the picture of his work and his personality. It is as clear an answer that could be given to much of the attitude and material of the Appraisal Commission's Report.

Sunday was a bitterly cold day beginning with the thermometer at zero. I walked in alone to the Methodist Church in Lakeville, and in the afternoon mother and I took a good walk over frozen roads that would have been impassable the day before.

Tuesday evening of last week was a Philharmonic Concert to which we had two tickets which we gave to Billy and a friend.

Wednesday evening Uncle Jim and Aunt Vera came to dinner with a nice girl from Atlanta - Virginia Campbell, a niece of Miss Martha Berry. Mother and Aunt Vera had planned to go down to the prayer meeting at the First Church where Dr. Fleming was going to speak of the Appraisal Report, but they changed their plan and mother and Aunt Vera and I went to see the new Movie "The Sign of the Cross", and the others went to see the Irish Players. "The Sign of the Cross" was a very wonderful picture of the crusade of the early Christians under Nero, including the burning of Rome and some very unpleasant

scenes of Roman decadence. The pictures of the Roman government, of the games and of the early Christian missions were wonderful. The two defects were first the unnecessary display of Roman degeneracy and second the somberness of the representation of the early Christians. The picture missed the joy of which the New Testament is full and which we know is the outstanding mark of the early Christian communities.

Three days last week we had a conference with the Siam missionaries who are at home on furlough, working over a number of their problems, but I am afraid we did not make very much progress. I don't know just what the difficulty is in Siam - perhaps it is the climate, or the torpor of the people, or the dead weight of southern Buddhism.

Thursday of last week we had a little farewell prayer meeting for Miss Elliott and Mrs. Scott, who were sailing for India and Persia to visit Margaret Scott who is in Teheran. Mrs. Scott was not able to be in for the meeting as she had been in the day previous for a conference of all the missionaries from China which Dr. Scott has the first Wednesday in January each year. There was a very happy gathering.

This last Saturday Mrs. Wagner and Mrs. Milne came to luncheon. Mr. and Mrs. Milne are newcomers to Lakeville, who are developing a very lovely place back of us near the cross-roads on the old Moore farm. They are very nice neighbors and very fond of Lakeville.

Yesterday morning I went out to speak at Rutgers College where they have a new President - Robert Clothier, who was graduated from Princeton in 1908 and who is a cousin of Mrs. Sailer. I picked him out at once as a Clothier when I saw him. He and Dean Metzger are the right sort. I got home in time for dinner and mother and I had a nice quiet afternoon, reading and writing and listening to the Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra over the radio.

Today we are having a steady rain but I suppose it will not be long before we shall have some cold weather again. We have had two very cold spats - Thanksgiving and New Years, but that has been all.

The Oxford Group has been here. Mother and Billy went to their meeting last Monday night at the Waldorf Astoria where they said there must have been 2,000 or 3,000 people, packing the ball room. They are having a House Party at Briarcliffe now. I read yesterday on the train one of the last books produced by the Movement - "He that Cometh," by Mrs. Allen, Chaplin of Lincoln College, Oxford. It is just what we used to have at Northfeld and Keswick years ago.

With dearest love,

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JAN 20 1933
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January 18, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear
Yenching University
Peiping, East, China

My dearest Mamie:

Mother was in great happiness this morning over a letter from Sunny telling of the telephone conversation with you by radio across the Pacific. I enclose a copy of part of Sunny's letter which mother wanted me to make to send to the other children. It certainly does bring you very near to think of such talks as these across the wide reaches of the world. In copying Sunny's letter I left out some paragraphs about the doll and the dress goods you sent her, which evidently are a great delight to her.

Mother and I had a lovely evening yesterday at the Coffins at dinner where there were many loving inquiries after you and Elliott and Fatty and Billy. Henry Van Busca and his wife were there and Professor and Mrs. Lyman, who are just going on a sabbatical leave, and two dear Scotch people - Professor and Mrs. Grierson. He is Professor of English in the University of Edinburgh in the chair of Masson and Saintsbury, and is lecturing in Columbia and also giving readings on Burns, which he said he had done both at Princeton and at Bryn Mawr. He is the great authority now on Scott. I asked him what he thought of Buchan's life and he said it was an interesting criticism of Scott's novels and he said there was nothing new in it, that Buchan had got all that from Lockhart. He asked him whether there was much new material and he said "Yes, immense quantities!" ~~He said he was publishing letters of Scott and had three volumes done and would like to get out ten volumes altogether; that there was a glorious wealth of material in Dr. Pierpont Morgan's Library here, which he was having a joyful time in working over.~~

It is interesting to see the Union Seminary reaction to the theology of the Appraisal Commission's Report. Apparently all the Union Seminary men deride it as thin and worn out liberalism. As Walter Lowrie says the rays of light of the new evangelicalism of Europe are already striking the spires of Union and metaphysics and supernaturalism and the historicity of the New Testament account of these are all coming in again with a rush.

I had a very interesting trip on Sunday to the Pennsylvania State Teachers' College at Slippery Rock, in the western part of the state. Slippery Rock is a little village off the railroad, without even a moving picture show in it. A good substantial Chester County Dunkard was called to the principalship of a little run down State Normal School there and has made out of it and extraordinary state institution. It was delightful to be there and to see what a little group of faithful, able, devoted people had created with no frills

January 18, 1935

but with solid truth built under and through it. It was their winter graduation time. The President told me that the State of Pennsylvania had a turnover of 10% in its public school teachers every year and that it needed thousands and thousands annually just to fill up the vacancies. At present, no over, the situation was very difficult because of enforced economies.

Last Wednesday also I had a good time in Atlantic City, speaking at the joint meeting of the Liberal Arts College Movement and of the Council of Church Boards of Education. A Roman Catholic, Dr. Fitzpatrick of Marquette University and I spoke together at the evening meeting on "The Ideal of a Christian College," and we found ourselves in full agreement. He made a straight unequivocal declaration of the place of religion in education and as to the right of a Christian College to be Christian in its aims, ideal, organization, purpose and effort.

I am reading under separate cover a copy of Revell's reprint of the article in the January "Missionary Review." Every mail brings in letters with regard to it and I judge that we are in for a good discussion this next year of the fundamental philosophy of missions and as to the nature of Christianity itself as well as of the scope and character of the missionary enterprise. One of the best articles defending missionaries is by George Sokolsky in "The Christian Century." I must get several copies of it. I think we must have it reprinted.

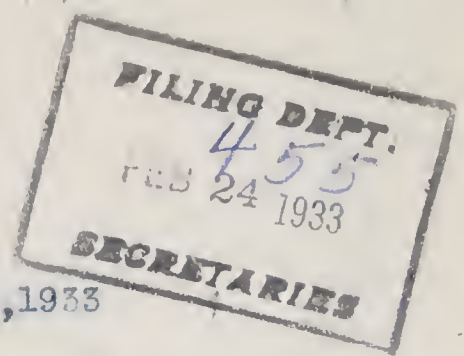
The proofs of the Stone Lectures are already coming in and I hope the book can be out by the end of February or in March. The Appraisal Commission's Report has been a good preparation for the discussion of "The Finality of Jesus Christ."

Elliott was in the city one day last week and called us up coming and going on the telephone but was unable to get in to see us. He was down in Princeton and saw Billy there. Billy is still hoping to get a job in teaching in some one of the preparatory schools next year.

I may not be able to get a letter off to you next week as I am leaving on Saturday for a series of engagements in the middle west with two and three meetings every day for a week. I hope to bring the remnants back on Monday, January 30th.

With dearest love,

MBS:P



February 20, 1933

My dearest Marnie,

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the January issue of the bulletin of the Institute of International Education in which Dr. Duggan takes some exceptions to the Report of the League of Nations Mission of Educational Experts to China. I am sending with this the pages from the New York Times containing the text of the Report of the League of Nations Committee of 1919 on the China Japanese dispute and also some pages from the New York Times Book Review Section with regard to some books on China.

I have just been sending off a selection of books on the Manchurian question to Miss Florence Smith, who is to present a paper on the subject at some Club in Santiago this summer.

We had a very happy weekend at Rockledge over Lincoln's birthday. The night we arrived we had a foot of snow and then zero weather, so that there was not much walking, but we had a very happy time indoors and I got a number of jobs done that I was glad to be able to complete. One of them was the Index for the Stone Lectures which I hope will be out before the end of March.

A wretched weasel got into the chicken house and killed a number of the chickens. Bill killed it with a poisoned chicken leg which he laid for it beside the hole through which it came up into the chicken house.

I was off for three trips last week- Tuesday to Washington, Thursday to Charlottesville, Va., and Saturday to Philadelphia to a meeting of the Teheran College Trustees. Beside this we had some four other meetings, including the meeting of the Northfield Trustees on Friday afternoon for which Elliott was down. He came to dinner with us that evening with Aunt Clara, who had come over from Huntingdon that morning to spend the night with us preparatory for leaving on a little Cruise. She is very glad to get away from the Huntingdon life for a little while, and I think this Cruise which goes down to the West Indies and Brazil will be helpful to her.

The Washington meeting was the Western Section of the Presbyterian Reformed Alliance and was a very good meeting. I went down to speak on the Laymen's Missionary Inquiry Report and tried to deal both with the good and the bad of it.

Yesterday morning a friend from Montclair sent his car in for us, and I drove out to Upper Montclair, where I spoke at the church in the morning and had dinner with some friends afterwards, who drove us back in the afternoon to Graneray Park.

Dr. Schell has just been in to report on his Sunday at Mt. Hermon. Some of the children have been down with the grip but they seem to be getting over it. Elliott was looking quite well when he was down here and seems to be thoroughly happy in his work in the school.

mailed
4/20/33

We are having difficult times with our financial problems. The receipts have continued to fall off about 20%, and we shall have a deficit of nearly half a million dollars. This can be reduced, however, by annuity and legacy funds, but I imagine we shall have to carry forward at least \$260,000. We cannot certainly safely count on receipts next year beyond those of the current year. That will mean that, in order to balance the budget there will have to be a reduction of another 10 per cent, making 20 per cent in all on all the expenditures at home and abroad. It will be necessary to work out also a more equitable adjustment of the question of salary and exchange, that will bring countries like China and Persia into a more equitable basis in comparison with the other fields. All our Missions have been thus far in a very advantageous position, both in the matter of a small reduction and in the matter of a complete control of exchange as far as salaries. From all I can learn ours has been the only Board where this has been allowed. A twenty per cent reduction will fall very heavily on some of the official staff here, but multitudes of people are thankful for only shelter and raiment and food these days. One hears the most distressing stories from every side, and yet everybody holds on, hoping for the dawn.

It is raining hard this morning and I trust callers may be discouraged for there is a great mass of correspondence that ought to be cleared before Committee and Board meetings begin at 1:15.

We have the annual staff dinner this evening at the Prince George Hotel, and there are to be grand stunts, which are being guarded with great secrecy.

I read two very interesting books this last week on the trains, Hoskyns and Davie on "The Riddle of the New Testament" and Schweitzer's "Out of my Life and Thought." The latter makes less of Jesus Christ than I had expected and the former a great deal more. The Riddle of the New Testament is written by two of the foremost New Testament critics in England, who are as radical as any in their dealing with the gospel sources but who come out with the unequivocal conclusion that the one thing of which we can be certain is that from the very beginning the early Church regarded Jesus as supernatural, a person representing the unique intervening action of God and that Jesus held this same view of Himself. The writers will have none of the old critical theory that attempted to find a purely human Jesus behind an accretion of later years. There are a number of great passages in the book that I wish I had had in time to quote them in the Stone Lectures.

Mother has gone to the National Board today to some luncheon meeting but we will be going together tonight to the Staff Dinner.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University
Peiping, China.

MISSING DEPT.
MAILING DEPT.
455
SECRETARIES

March 13, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, West, China

My dearest Marnie:

I was unable to get any letter off to you last week as I was away all week at Louisville, Kentucky in connection with meetings in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mother and I had a lovely Sunday together on March 5th, going to Church in the morning at the First Church, having all afternoon and evening at home. We took a nice walk together and then picked out all the flower seeds that we needed to order for the coming summer and also some fruit trees and shrubs to put in. I am getting 1000 more pine trees to set about.

I left early Monday morning and had four very busy days in Louisville delivering the Gay Lectures in the morning, when I repeated the Princeton Lectures, and speaking every evening. This is a special week which the Seminary has every year when they invite back to the Seminary ministers from all over the Church. We had great audiences and one could not have asked for a warmer response. I stayed with Professor Dobbins in a most comfortable and hospitable home and went about to so many luncheons and dinners that I felt as though I had had about four Thanksgiving or Christmas days in succession.

I was specially glad to see again my dear friends Dr. and Mrs. Robertson. Mrs. Robertson is a daughter of Dr. Broadus, one of the greatest religious teachers our country has produced and Dr. Broadus is our foremost New Testament Greek scholar. They are just as lovely and lovable people as you could find.

It was very cold and wintry and one day we had snow, although the robins were about and the buds were coming on the shrubbery.

I came straight from Louisville to Pottstown for Sunday morning and for Ogontz in the afternoon, and got back last evening to find mother very well. She too had had a full week. Mrs. James had given her her box at the Metropolitan Opera House for Parsifal, and mother had filled it up with friends who thoroughly enjoyed it.

We have had quite a week with the banks closed but we have had money enough and the banks are re-opening today, apparently with no excitement. I can't quite make out whether the Federal Reserve Bank has really been to blame for some bad management or whether it was individual banks and bankers.

I must be going in a few minutes now for a conference this morning and then a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Missionary Review and then a meeting of the New York Presbytery, where I have to speak.

We saw Elliott and Holly week before last. On their way back to Northfield they stopped to pick up another dog so that they have three now, from the microscopic Boston terrier they got at Christmas to the monstrous Newfoundland dog which Elliott says marches around with Eleanor and is almost as tall as she is.

I had a good time reading this last week, covering Luwisohn's "Expression in America," Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn," two biographies, and a beginning of Edwyn Bevan's "Christianity." The Luwisohn's is a very interesting book on the history of American Literature, interpreted under the rubric of the Freudian psychology. The book is written with a very great deal of learning and a great deal of it is admirable but the Freudian sections are some of them silly, some of them bosh and some of them abhorrent.

I have wanted for a long time to get Beary Adam's History of the Jefferson and Madison administrations, which is always spoken of as the finest bit of writing of American history that we have, but have never been able to find the ten volumes. Now, however, I have just found a \$4.00 edition, which costs less than a dollar a volume, and am looking forward with delight to reading it.

We think of you constantly and are constantly asked questions about you as to whether we aren't afraid for your safety, etc. etc. I hope that Japan will not go south of the wall and that China may pull herself together and develop the solid steadfast national life and organization which are indispensable.

You will have heard before this of the adjustment that has been reached in the problem of salary and exchange. I wish you would let me know some time how this whole matter has worked both with Augusta and with you. Has the Mexican dollar depreciated in purchasing power proportionate to the variation in exchange? If not, what has been the difference between the two, namely, the variation of value in purchasing power of the Mexican dollar in terms of produce and the variation of the value of the gold dollar in terms of silver.

With dearest love from us all,

BES:B

FILING DEPT
NO 455

March 27, 1933
(Dict. March 22)

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peiping West,
Hopei, China.

My dearest Marnie:

We have been having a week of genuine March weather, rain and sleet and snow. Bill Jenks writes that the country is all snow and ice in Lakeville and that there will be no setting out of new trees there for a month yet. The newspaper says that taken as a whole this has been the second warmest winter on record, and we had less snow even than last winter. That wouldn't be true of Lakeville, however, or of Northfield. Holly's latest note said that they were in the midst of another great snow-storm.

Aunt Clara came home from her South American cruise yesterday. Her boat was due at two o'clock but did not get in until half past six, and because of her misplaced trunk we did not get away from the pier until half past nine or later. Mother and Ella had gone to meet her, and they all got home for a late dinner, at which Dan also was present, about ten o'clock. Our little Scotch maid Nellie is a perfect treasure and had everything just right for them. We shall be losing her on April first when she goes back to a family with whom she had been living when they return from Florida. She would rather say with us but cannot because she gets so much better wages in the other place and is saving money to return to Scotland. Mrs. Hendrickson will come back to help us a few days each week. Mother does not know when she will go up to Rockledge until she knows Patty's plans. She wants, of course, to be at Princeton for Billy's commencement, but that does not come until June 18 to 20.

Sunday was one grand rainy day. I was speaking morning and evening at St. Nicholas Reformed Church, Fifth Avenue and Forty-eighth Street. Mother went with me in the morning, but I persuaded her to stay at home in the evening. We had the whole afternoon quietly together, reading and writing and listening to the symphony concert over the radio. Last Tuesday evening, the fourteenth, we went to the Philadelphia philharmonic concert and heard some beautiful Brahms and Bach music. Some of the lovely music we have heard recently was Wagner music from the Boston Symphony.

Aunt Clara had a grand trip. She found it very warm under the equator and thinks that the nicest trip she ever took was the North Cape trip.

One evening last week mother went up to speak at the Madison Avenue Church House on Third Avenue while I was speaking at a Presbyterian Church up town, and the next evening we went together to Grace Episcopal Church where I spoke for Russell Bowie to a group of his people on the Laymen's Inquiry Report. They were having a series of five evening addresses, and the four others were being given by Dr. Merrill, Dr. Hocking, Dr. Brown and Miss Woodsmall, all of them members of the Appraisal Commission. As a matter of fact, any discussion of the Report was pretty much thrown away upon the audience, which knew nothing whatever of the issues involved, so that I pretty much dropped the discussion of the Report and tried to tell them as simply as possible just what foreign missions are and are for.

March 27, 1933

Billy writes that he has just about decided to accept Elliott's offer to teach Latin at Mount Hermon next year although he would rather go to Asheville for the milder winter and freedom from sinus trouble. I enclose a clipping from the recent New York Times showing that Billy has achieved a second group. You will be interested in the story in the same clipping about the two small boys in Greenwich. I send with these a few other things that may be of interest to you. 6/K

We still have lively times over the Laymen's Inquiry Report and Mrs. Buck. I think not a day passes that we do not have to write letters explaining or complaining or dissenting or protesting. It would be a glorious thing if all the energies that have to be used in these ways could be concentrated on positive and constructive tasks.

The newspaper reports from the Far East as one gets them in the Times are somewhat vacillating. I hope that there may be no movement of the Japanese south of the Wall and that China may be able to pull herself together within and develop a real united national life. I was interested in the report of the Yenching representative who was visiting the middle schools and had so much to say of the enterprise and progress of the southern Chinese cities. John Magee of Nanking who had lunch with us a few days ago was very pessimistic of any genuine unity of mind and purpose and effort between the Cantonese and the North Chinese.

The sun is shining again today brightly but in a chill air. I imagine that winter is practically passed now and that spring will not be far away. There is no sign of it yet in Gramercy Park though I have not looked carefully for any of the shoots of hyacinth or narcissus.

With dearest love from us all -

RES:AMW

April 1, 1933
(Dict. March 29)

Huntington
Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street,
~~Washington~~, Pennsylvania.

My dearest Mig:

It was very good to get your letter of March 25 and to hear of your meeting with Dr. Cherry and D. Claudy. I had not known that Dr. Claudy was at the Rockview Penitentiary. I judge that Aunt Clara is home now. We had a lovely but altogether too short visit from her over night the day she arrived. She was looking very well and is as spry as spry can be.

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have written to Elliott which will give you some of the home news. It is good to hear from you about Charles and Barbara, and I trust that they are very happily settled in their new home. When you see Aunt Clara, give her our dearest love and tell her to come back as soon as she can. I wish that we might see you and Charley some time also.

With dearest love from Emma and myself -

RES:AMW

March 31, 1933
(Diet. March 29)

The Rev. Elliott Speer,
Mount Hermon,
Massachusetts.

My dear Elliott:

I am not surprised at the impossibility of reaching a satisfactory ~~agreement~~ with the Missionary Review. I think that we should have had the same experience if we had gone through to the end with the proposal of some months ago to merge the Review with the Record.

I trust that some arrangement may be made for the continuance of the Record and wish that the Evangelical Press would take it over with Mr. Wilson and Mr. Fitt, both associated with it.

I am not surprised at your report of snow. We have had so much rain here the last few weeks that one could be sure that you were having snow further north. I was in Bryn Mawr on Saturday night and Sunday, speaking in the church for Dr. Hutch and stayed with Uncle Jim and Aunt Caroline. There was quite a snow Saturday night which clung to all the shrubs, branches and wires, so that we waked Sunday morning to a dream world. The sun came out brightly, however, and the snow vanished very soon.

Mother had intended to go over with me, but Billy came home for the week-end to see some one about a school here in New York, which turned out to be a day school and did not greatly attract him.

Dr. Bement was here on Monday and I had a nice talk with him. He seems to be very eager to have Billy at Asheville. If Billy were qualified to teach the Bible, he could take him on at once for that. Otherwise he hopes he may have a place as sort of tutor and understudy. He was to be in Princeton today and was going to see Billy at the Princeton Inn.

Mother and I went to the dinner of the Student Movements on Monday evening to see Mr. Visser t' Hooft. He made an admirable speech, confronting the Humanists of the group with some real religion and with the authentic figure of Christ. Some one, I think it was Dave Porter, was telling me of some very good man available for Bible teaching, but I am sorry I have forgotten his name. I advised him to report the matter at once to Dr. Bement. Perhaps I am in error in thinking that it was Dave who spoke to me, since there were so many there to whom one was talking.

I have just received the April number of the International Review of Missions, with two good articles very stringent in their criticism of the Report of the Appraisal Commission of the Laymen's Foreign Missions Inquiry, one by Dr. Latourette of Yale and the other by

March 31, 1933

John Mackay. Dr. Mackay deals with the theology of the Report in a very noble and positive way.

It is good to hear of the congeniality of Happy and Andy. I am sorry that the third member of the group proved untractable.

I shall be away in Chicago next week but hope to get back Friday morning, April 7, and mother and I are planning to go up that afternoon to Rockledge where we have not been this month at all. I fear I shall miss the little girls. I am glad that mother will see them, and I hope that some nice day this spring when we are at Rockledge we can drive up for luncheon.

With dearest love -

RSS:AMW

FILING DEPT.
455
APR 25 1953
SECRETARIES

April 24, 1953

My dearest Marnie,

We have had very happy days since I wrote you last. Grace Boynton came to spend Tuesday and Wednesday with us and showed some Yenching pictures and some beautiful Chinese garden slides in our apartment on Wednesday evening. I think there were 34 people altogether, including the Timlows, Uncle Ned and Aunt Lucy, the Ginling Women's Committee, one of our neighbors, Mrs. Robert Ridgeway, Miss Fendleton of Wellesley and a number of others. It was a very pleasant evening. Thursday morning mother and I went up to Rockledge and after lunch took one of the cars and drove up to Mt. Hermon, arriving at 5:30. There we had a lovely evening and night and drove back to Rockledge Friday morning. There were two perfect spring days, although the air is still very chilly.

Eleanor was under the weather. The doctor was not sure whether it was pink eye or incipient measles. Caroline and Margie were in the best of health and it is a sport to see the two dogs, Amos a huge black Newfoundland dog and Andy a tiny little Boston terrier. Their play together is as good as a circus, Andy running all over and around Amos.

It was nice to get your cablegram on Wednesday before we started. We found your good letter awaiting us when we got back on Saturday afternoon when we had reluctantly to return as I was speaking at Girard College in Philadelphia on Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Welles sent a congratulatory telegram to us at Mt. Hermon which was delivered in the following form: "Lesser is the time that binds. Loving congralutations."

The perennials were coming up beautifully at Rockledge but it was too early to do anything with the annuals. We hope to get up again the end of this week and to put the flower seeds in partly then and partly a week later.

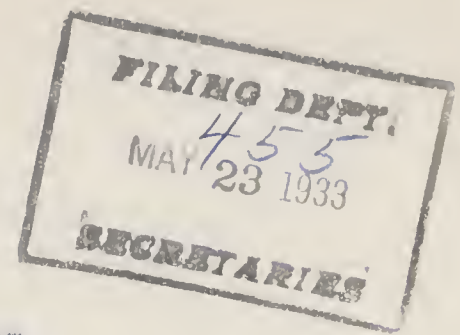
Mother and Rica visited Klein's this morning and got you a couple of dresses which mother is hoping Miss McCoy may be willing to take out with her.

I am beginning to get letters now with regard to the Stone Lectures. Thus far they have been very kind but I presume there will be enough of the other sort in due time.

We are just closing the books now. The Board of National Missions has a debt of some \$648,000, with an additional deficit of the preceding year of some \$500,000. We will have a deficit of either \$230,000 or \$344,000, depending on whether we use some legacy income or hold it, as some of us think it should be held, for its specific purpose.

With dearest love,

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peoping-West,
China.



May 11, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dearest Marnie:

We have had a number of beautiful spring days the last fortnight and mother and I have been each week-end at Rockledge, except Sunday, April 23rd, when I was at Girard College. The following Sunday we were at Rockledge but got back in the evening and had Billy with us for breakfast Monday morning, on his way back to Princeton. They had rowed at Cambridge Saturday afternoon and three of the four Princeton crews were victorious over Harvard and Tech. Elliott and Holly were in Cambridge and saw the races and drove Billy back with them to Mount Hermon for Sunday. They said that it was a perfect day at Cambridge and that the races were very interesting and that they could see Billy's yellow head bobbing away in the boat as they came in in the home stretch.

Wednesday morning, May 3rd, we were called up on the telephone early from Lakeville and found it was Tom Wagner, who reported that his mother had died suddenly the night before. She had not been at all well and mother felt anxious about her when she saw her the preceding Sunday. Mr. Wagner wanted me to take the funeral service so of course mother and I went up on Thursday and there was a simple little service of neighbors and friends in the house. The following morning Mr. Wagner and Tom and Mr. Wagner's sister and brother-in-law were going over with Mrs. Wagner's body to Ellenville for burial there so mother and I drove over with them. It was a perfect day and the drive over the new road and through the Shawangunk Mountains are unsurpassed. We came back in the afternoon from the beautiful little cemetery and the next day we had a gentle rain all day, which was just ideal for our flower seeds which we had planted. We have your double yellow Chinese hollyhocks in and some wonderful morning glories from my Cousin Kate Speer of Denver. We have put in a whole lot of new evergreen and fruit trees. Last Saturday we found a sale of dwarf evergreens in Millerton at unbelievably low prices and we got some of those which have added greatly to the beauty of the place.

Again we came home Sunday night and I took the midnight train to Providence to speak there at an interdenominational ministers meeting on "Re-Thinking Missions," of which I am beginning to get a little weary, and yet the money behind the movement is launching a new set of publicity releases. An issue of seven more big volumes of which the first has 762 pages on India and Burma has just appeared at the price of \$1.50, which must be only a fraction of the cost of the book. Evidently Mr. Rockefeller intends to keep the matter alive if money can do it. I don't know whether it is his money or not that is providing for the translation of the Report and its cheap circulation in Chinese.

Mother is very well these days and her ankle is almost entirely recovered from the sprain of turning on a loose stone a month ago one evening as we were taking a walk in the city.

As I came over this morning the tulips in Gramercy Park were in full bloom and I presume we shall be having them at Lakeville this week-end. We are going up tomorrow afternoon and are going to drive over on Sunday to Wallingford where I am to speak at the Choate School.

Thank you very much for your good letter of Palm Sunday with its answer to my question with regard to salaries and exchange. I am glad that you are going to have enough. If you need anything at any time for any purpose, please be sure to let us know.

Your story about the raised check is almost unbelievable. I hope they can find out how and by whom it was raised. Be sure to let us know if there are any further developments in the story.

We had a very nice call last evening from two of our neighbors at Twenty-Four - Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ridgway. Mr. Ridgway has been for years one of the engineers of the city in connection with the subways and the water system, etc. He is a very able and very modest man and represents the very highest type of efficient, unselfish public service. He has just retired now and I wrote him a note after his retirement, which led to our getting acquainted, and Mrs. Ridgway came in to see Grace Boynton's pictures the night she spoke on Yenching and Chinese gardens.

We shall be going to the General Assembly in a fortnight now and I shall be thankful when it is over. I hope that the Assembly may initiate the necessary measures to provide hereafter for a smaller assembly, meeting biennially, but I fear there will be much opposition to either reform.

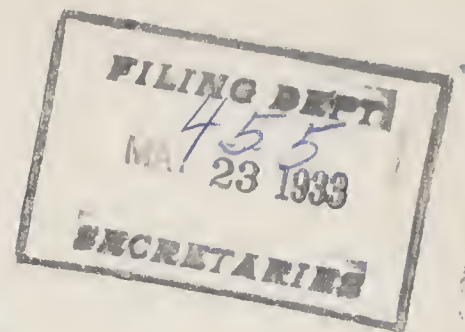
We watch the papers daily for news of the Japanese movements and pray that they may not be disturbing your work and that in the midst of all the scaffolding the real building of Christian faith and character in your students is going on.

With dearest love,

RES:B

Extract - Letter from Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
dated Yenching University, Peiping, China
Palm Sunday, 1933

*Father asked how the variation in exchange had affected Augusta's and my salaries. In 1925 my salary was \$120 Mex. a month. Last year before the first 10% cut it was over \$320 for several months. With the new cut I haven't figured out exactly what it will be, but I think about \$210. Augusta's salary was also \$120. in 1925. Now she gets \$155. Mex. and \$25 gold a month. On the original \$120 I had to scrimp; the last year and a half I've been able to save. You ask if the Mexican dollar has depreciated in purchasing power proportionate to the variation in exchange. No it hasn't. What are the differences in the purchasing power of my present salary and my salary eight years ago. The cost of Chinese products has hardly increased at all - meat, green vegetables, coal, etc. Wages for servants have risen a little, not much. Tailor's bills, etc. have staid about the same. If we could live entirely on Chinese goods we would be wealthy. But things that come directly or indirectly from abroad have of course gone up in proportion to variation in exchange. The foreign things we consume chiefly are - canned food, especially tinned milk, chocolate, butter, coffee, dress goods (cotton or wool, we can use Chinese silk), hats, gloves, drugs (tooth paste, soap, medicines), some household supplies (Dutch cleanser, sassafras), books, magazines. Some of these have increased in price, not only because of exchange, but also because of increased tariff. Duties are much higher than they were three years ago and are calculated in terms of "gold units", a complicated process which I can never completely understand, but it has the same effect as using a much higher rate of exchange than the current rate. Postage has increased in proportion to exchange for foreign letters. I can tell you better of course how the salary cut will affect us after its been in force a few months. As I foresee it, it will mean that I can still live most happily and comfortably, but that a few things like magazines and canned grapefruit will be distinctly luxuries, and that I won't be able to save anything. There is nothing to be complained of in that respect. To what thousands of people it would look like heaven."



May 15, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dearest Marnie:

Mother and I are just back from a beautiful week-end at Rockledge. We went up Friday afternoon and Bill and Cubby met us. We drove over through the beautiful green country. The lawns at Rockledge are the richest, thickest green now, full of yellow dandelions when the sun is out.

Saturday was a misty day with the southwest wind threatening rain all day and yet without a drop. We planted new clumps of spirea and forsythia and Paris japonica and more flower seeds - linaria, geus, morning glories, holly-hocks, etc. The seeds that we planted the preceding weekend are already breaking through. The long rows of white alyssum which we planted for borders have come through first.

Already spring is very late and we are just now having the narcissus, the most beautiful little bottle hyacinths and the tulips. The lilacs are just beginning to break out.

We had Mr. Wagner and Tom for luncheon Saturday with our own eggs and asparagus. The chickens are doing famously and we are bringing eggs down now to give away to our friends.

Saturday afternoon when the work was over I took a good long walk investigating the countryside and various changes that are being made.

Sunday morning we took the closed car and drove by West Cornwall, Goshen, Torrington, Waterbury and Cheshire to Wallingford. We allowed plenty of time so that we loitered along and picked out some little by-roads - one especially from Cheshire to Wallingford, which took us up over the high hill where the Connecticut Tuberculosis Sanitarium is and where one has a grand view of the orchards. The plum blossoms are over now but the apple blossoms are just coming around Lakeville.

We had a lovely visit at the School, which mother likes better than any of the other schools that she has seen. I spoke at the Sunday service just after the noon dinner hour and then we drove home in the late afternoon, the sun coming out through the clouds. We got back by six and had supper and faithful Bill was there to take us over to the

May 15, 1933

7:15 train, which got us back here at a good hour.

Today is mother's birthday and she was delighted to get in the morning mail your letter of Easter Day.

Tuesday, May 16, 1933

I was interrupted at that point and am finishing the letter the first thing this morning.

I left mother just now packing her bag for a trip to Schenectady where she is speaking at Y. W. C. A. Meetings at luncheon and this evening. I think she is planning to come back on the night sleeper.

The morning papers make it clear still that Japan is coming down on Peiping. The Times states that her plan is to establish a new independent Chinese state in North China - independent, I suppose, in the same sense, or nearly the same sense, as Manchukuo. The papers report also the mass of plotting and counter-plotting that is declared to be going on between the Chinese generals and ambitious individuals in North China. It is certainly a tragic thing that Japan has not sought to help Nanking to unify and strengthen the country, but on the other hand there are so many mysteries to us in the matter of the internal disunity of the Chinese, even of those who claim to be of patriotic purpose. I do hope that Chiang Kai-Shek and his group can hold on and work things out.

Do you receive the Sunday supplements of the New York Times which I have been sending? I send with the set this week a copy of the News Bulletin of the Institute of International Education, which contains an opening article that will interest you.

Thank you very much for the answer to my question with regard to salaries and exchange. Please let us know at any time if you are in need of anything.

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter which I have just written to Rex Wheeler with regard to Mrs. Huck, which may be of interest to you.

With dearest love,

RSS:B

FILING DEPT
455
MAY 24 1933
SECRETARIES

May 22, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, West, China

My dearest Marnie:

Mother and I came back last night from a lovely week-end at Rockledge. After a busy week here I went up Friday evening but mother was kept here by an all-day Y. W. C. A. Meeting at Riverdale at Mrs. Dodge's home. She did not get back into the city until late, although she had the comfort going and coming of a friend's car in which she picked up a number of others who were going to Riverdale.

She came up Saturday morning and Cubby and I met her at noon at Millerton.

The place is very beautiful although only a few of the flowers are up. The tulips, the pansies, the lilacs and the yellow Alyssum were in bloom and the iris was just breaking out. One of the most beautiful spots about the place now is the new garden we have made behind the barn with a great border of ferns on one side filled with narcissus and crocuses. We brought two big bundles of flowers down with us - one a fragrant bunch of azalia which Cubby had gathered in the woods.

Sunday morning I spoke at the service in the Episcopal Church and all afternoon we just sat at home and basked in the beauty of the countryside.

Dr. Scott showed me a telegram from Miss Bessie McCoy today from Evanston, Illinois, in which she said that she had just received a letter from her brother in Tientsin, advising her not to come back to North China at the present time because of the danger there. I think Dr. Scott is advising her to go on to Shanghai and to decide whether to go on to Peking or to stop off for work in Changtung. It is very hard to make out from the papers just what the situation is - one day they report that all fighting has ceased and that the Japanese are not going any further and yet on Sunday the Times reported that they were intending to go on down to the Yellow River. It is impossible for us to understand their justification but it is equally difficult to understand the situation among the Chinese themselves.

Billy had his last race on Saturday, I think, when Princeton beat Pennsylvania and Columbia. I think that either three or four of the Princeton crew were victorious, including Billy's boat. He was expecting to go out to spend Sunday at Bryn Mawr with Uncle Jim and Aunt Caroline.

May 2, 1933

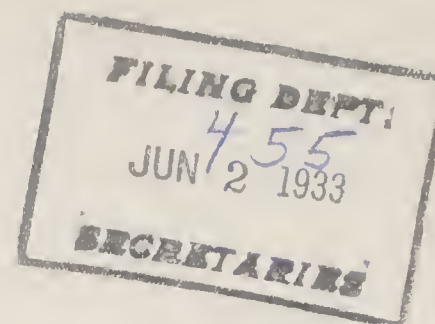
I presume his work is pretty well over now and that he will soon be packing up his things. The present prospect is that he will spend ~~ix~~ the summer with us in Rockledge. He has accepted a position in the Asheville School for Boys for next year.

I am leaving for the General Assembly tonight with no heart for it at all. The Westminster Seminary group and the Sunday School Times have stirred up all the bitterness that they could and we shall have to meet a great body of criticism at the General Assembly, partly from the fundamentalist wing and partly from the entirely opposite extreme. I don't know whether these opposite attitudes will neutralize one another or whether they will emerge, strange as it would be, in a common attack on the Board. Well, in another week we shall know but my surmise is that after a good deal of strain and anguish God will bring the Church through once again without an open schism. I wish I were out of the affair altogether and if it were not for running away from responsibility I would just wash my hands of the whole business and go my own way. Alas, that would be just the quintessence of the Plymouth brethren folly. We have to work with others and we must just get along together as well as we can.

In what I wrote to Rex Wheeler about Mrs. Buck I ought really to have added a paragraph explaining her desire to be released henceforth from all the ordinary regulations of joint missionary service. She wants to be free to come and go at her own charges and to use her time in just such ways as she thinks best.

With dearest love from us all.

MSB:B



May 31, 1933

Miss Julia Whittaker,
1530 Northside Avenue
Lincoln, Nebraska

My dear Julia:

It was very kind of you to send me a copy of your photograph and an invitation to the Commencement exercises of the Teachers College High School tomorrow evening. I wish I could be present to see you and to see your father again. I was very glad to see him when I was in Lincoln several years ago and I wish very much it might be possible to get back again some time in the near future. I am afraid, however, that there is no prospect of my being in Nebraska any time this year.

I often think of old Huntington days and am only sorry that I get back so seldom. Whenever I do I try to go past the old homes where your father lived as a boy. No memories are more vivid with me than the old Huntington memories, including your great-grandfather and great-grandmother and your three great-aunts. It is a wonderful row of stones in the old cemetery where they all lie at their rest.

With best wishes to your father,

Very sincerely yours,

RES:B

FILING DEPT
455
SECRETARIES

June 15, 1933

Miss Julia Whittaker,
1530 Northside Avenue
Lincoln, Nebraska

My dear Julia:

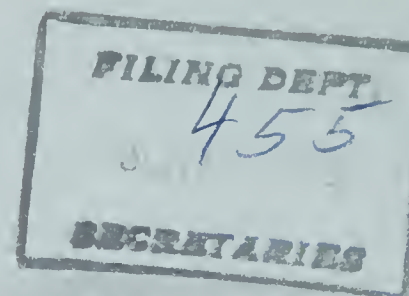
I was very sorry to receive this morning your letter telling of your father's death. I am reporting this to my Aunt, Miss Clara McManis in Huntington. She and my sister, Mrs. Charles Reed, are the only members of my family left living in the old home town. I know they would wish to join in sending their deep sympathy and kind regards to you and your father.

I remember the last time I was in Lincoln and met your father I introduced him to Dr. Paul Johnston, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and I know that Dr. Johnston would be glad to be of any help or comfort to you in this time of your great sorrow and loss.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

RCS:B



June 21, 1933
(Dict. June 15)

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peiping West,
Hopei, China.

My dearest Marnie:

After two weeks of as trying summer weather as one can remember, with sweltering heat by day and night, we have had three days of perfect June weather with a temperature perhaps a little too low. Indeed I have been afraid to hear that they might have had frost at Rockledge, to play havoc with our gardens.

Mother and I went up last Friday, and Fanny and Carrie came up on Saturday. Mother is settled now for the summer with the exception of a visit she expects to make next week to the city when we will probably go down for Billy's Commencement on Tuesday.

Billy came up to Rockledge Sunday afternoon in order to get one of the cars to use as a freight truck between Princeton and Rockledge. He was expecting to drive down on Monday with the open car and bring it back loaded, then to go down in the closed car and bring it back full of books, then after Commencement to go down with the open car for Patty and Joan. We were sorry to think of them in Baltimore during the hot weather, but it must be delightful there with the change that came Monday night.

Fanny and Carrie were jubilant to get back to Rockledge, and the place is indeed a perfect heaven of beauty and of rest. The iris was still in bloom. The lilies were just beginning and the columbine and the foxglove and the Canterbury bells and the Sweet William and the pyrethrum, while the mock orange bushes east of the house were in full bloom with their fragrance floating in the open windows.

I came back Sunday night, and Monday night went out to Winona Lake to the Synod of Indiana where I spent two days, returning this morning. I hope to get up to Rockledge tomorrow afternoon.

We had a good conference with the new missionaries, first our own and then the interdenominational group. It was much smaller than usual, but still it was a good company. We had a nice Communion Service down at the First Church at the end of our own Presbyterian section, and then a good closing day last Friday in spite of the terrific heat.

I read last week Dr. Douglas Mackenzie's book "The Christ of the Christian Faith," and yesterday read on the train Canon Barry's "Christianity and the new World." These are books that accept pretty thoroughly the results of Biblical and historic criticism more fully, I think, than the future will warrant. They are written altogether in the language and intellectual tone of the modern world, but they are solid in their supernaturalism and are symptomatic of the new tide that is running with ever increasing strength, and of which Karl Heim is, I suppose, now the strongest representative in Germany.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer - 2.

June 21, 1933

I think I sent you a copy of the Stone Lectures, "The Finality of Jesus Christ." If I did not please let me know.

We are glad to see the China-Japan war news dropping out of the papers and trust that the Japanese have really gone back to the Great Wall and that China is going to be left at peace so far as actual conflict is concerned. We will hope that she may achieve her inward unity. It is good to think of you as able to close the college year without disturbance and to send the boys and girls quietly away to their homes.

I enclose herewith a copy of the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions at the General Assembly which was overwhelmingly adopted by the Assembly.

Billy is planning to go to the Blairstown Preparatory School Conference the end of this month as Dr. Bement is presiding over it, and Billy, as you know, is going to teach in his school at Asheville next year.

With dearest love from us all -

RES:AMW

Dictated by Mr. Speer
Signed in his absence



July 10, 1933

My dearest Marnie,

I had a lovely weekend at Rockledge, including Monday and Tuesday, July 4th. We closed the offices on Monday so as to give as long a weekend as possible. I had to come back to New York Tuesday evening and was sorry to leave as Patty and Joan were coming within a day or two. Billy went down early Monday morning, so as to avoid the Fourth of July traffic and drove up with them, I think, on Thursday. Mother told me over the telephone Saturday night of their safe arrival at 10:30 in the evening, with Joan as happy and good as she could be. Billy and I built a great pen for her around the sand box. It took me back to the old days in Englewood when Billy had such a glorious pen under the big oak trees on the front lawn.

Last Friday I went down to Norfolk, Va., to speak at a Baptist Convention. The Southern Baptists have taken me in very generously this past year. It is rather amusing to have Dr. Machen calling my orthodoxy in question on one side, and to have the Southern Baptists, who are the most conservative ^{body} theologically, open their arms on the other side. It was a very hot railroad journey down through Delaware and the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia to Cape Charles, but from there it was a beautiful three hour boat ride, past Old Point Comfort and Norfolk. Friends met me at Norfolk and we drove 20 miles to Virginia Beach, where I spoke in an auditorium and then slept in a hotel looking out over the Atlantic Ocean, with a full moon shining on the water and the big waves coming in from the whole width of the Atlantic.

The next day I came back to New York once again. The railroad trip to Wilmington was scorching, but there I caught the Congressional Limited, from Washington, which is an air-cooled train. This is a great advance since you were here. We have whole railroad trains now artificially cooled. The windows are shut, but the air is changed regularly and the atmosphere is kept low so that one rides all day in perfect comfort, even in the hottest weather? The B. & O. has put on a number of such trains between New York and Chicago and the other railroads will have to follow suit. Meanwhile, there are almost all of them cooling the sleeping cars that go out on night trains. They have an apparatus for the purpose which looks like a prehistoric monster with two long necks, one to pour cool air in and the other to draw hot air out. It is to be hoped that before long miniature machines like this may be available that can be applied to public speakers!

I have just read the minutes of the North China Mission Meeting, and Dr. Scott has shown me a photograph of the group. You are one of the nicest looking groups that I have ever seen, specially the ladies of the Mission.

I am keeping house alone now at 24, but am not cooking as I did last summer. I have to be away so much that it is not worth while keeping the frigidaire stocked. But you should see what a good bed maker I am and how spick and span I keep the apartment with mop and duster. I see Miss Connell smiling a little incredulously, but I am stating this assertion within the bounds of truth.

Yesterday I was here in the city speaking in the West End Presbyterian Church. The school teachers are here again at the various schools but most of them, of course, go to the Riverside Church and the Cathedral. Since they were built the downtown congregations have suffered a great deal in July. We had a number of them at the West End church, however.

And now I am doing my best to clear up letters until Thursday night, when I have to go up to Clifton Springs to the Annual Meeting of the Trustees. Dr. Adrian Taylor is Superintendent now and doing finely. All such institutions are having a hard time financially, however, as many of the private schools are. I understand that Hotchkiss will be full, although Mr. Van Sotwood says that they have had more applications for scholarship aid than ever before. It is reported that the Salisbury Schools and the Girls School at Millbrook have so few applications that they will not be able to open. I trust that this is not true. I have heard of a college in Virginia, last week, where the faculty had been told that the College would be opened if they could to come back with the understanding that there would be no salaries but that after all the necessary running expenses had been paid whatever was left, if anything, would be divided between them.

I heard two good stories on the drive from Norfolk to Virginia Beach.

Three children were overheard discussing what they would do if they had their lives to live over again. The oldest, aged six, said: "If I had my life to live over again, I would never touch spinach, it is not fit food for any human being." The second, aged four, said: "If I had my life to live over again, I would never touch motor oil, it is not fit for either man or beast." I would never touch it again." The third, aged two, said: "If I had my life to live over again, I would be a model baby. I am sick and tired when I am sitting of looking up and having cigarette ashes fall into my eyes."

There was a lady in Virginia who had a negro maid named Rosa, who was accustomed to answer the telephone for her. One day the mistress heard the bell ring and Rosa answered it. After a few minutes she heard Rosa say - "Yes sir." After a few moments more she heard her say, "Yes sir." Then, there was another pause, and then she heard Rosa say - "It sure is", and she hung up. Shortly the telephone bell rang again, and the mistress heard exactly the same telephone conversation. Shortly after she called Rosa and said, "Rosa, what was it that was said over the telephone that you were answering 'Yes sir' and 'Yes sir' and 'It sure is'." "Well, Mrs. White", Rosa said, "The man he asked, 'Is this Mrs. White's house,' and I said, Yes sir; then he asked, 'Is Mrs. White at home', and I said, Yes sir; then he said, 'Long distance from Washington', and I said, It sure is, and I hung up."

I hope to go from Clifton Springs straight over to Albany, getting off there at 5:00 o'clock in the morning, and crossing over to Chatham and getting over to Millerton about 2:00 o'clock. I think I will stay over until Monday night when I will have to get back in order to go to Ohio next day, to a Lutheran Convention, where I have promised to speak. When I get back from there, I think I will take a whole week off and stay at Lakeville from Sunday to Sunday.

I read two good books going to Norfolk and returning - Walter Lippmann's "Public Opinion", and one of the four volumes of Leslie Stephen's "Studies of a Biographer." He was something of an old cad, but very interesting, and I never can be thankful enough for his tremendous two big books upon the History of English Thought in the Eighteenth Century. Those and Masaryk's two volumes on The History of Russian Thought are among the greatest books I have ever read. When he were held up at

Singapore in 1915 for some days, I had a glorious time sitting in a steamer chair on deck reading Masaryk's book. I gave it away to a friend in India afterwards, and was always sorry that I did not keep it myself. Some day I must get another set and make sure of having it always by giving it to Mother and writing her name in it.

With dearest love,

MS:C.

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JUL 24 1933
SECRETARIES

July 20, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peiping-W st,
China.

My dearest Marnie,

I enclose herewith some clippings which mother sent me to forward to you. I spent last Sunday and Monday at Rockledge and am hoping to go back this weekend and to spend all of next week there. Patt and Billy were expecting to come down tomorrow for shopping and the dentist and, if they do, I will be driving back with them late in the evening; otherwise, I shall be going up in the last evening train.

We have had almost no rain for nearly two months. There have been occasional showers, and by watering the garden we have kept it in good shape, but the poor lawn looks very sad and brown. We had a little rain last Saturday, which was St. Swithin's Day, and according to the old saying it ought to be raining for forty days, but I am afraid St. Swithin has lost his potency.

I spent the last two nights on sleeping cars going to and coming from Sandusky, where Franklin Fry, whom you will remember from old Camp Diamond days, met me and drove me to Lakeside, where I spoke twice at a gathering of Ohio Lutherans, who were very responsive. Franklin sent his warmest regards to you.

Last week also I was two nights on sleepers going to and coming from Clifton Springs. The Sanitarium has had a hard struggle but I imagine not quite as hard a struggle as the Mayo Clinic and Battle Creek. Under Dr. Adrian Taylor's competent management, it seems to have weathered the storm, and everyone was greatly encouraged at the meeting last week.

I had an amusing experience at the little Clifton Springs railroad station in the evening of which mother told me to be sure to write you. As I was standing on the lonely platform and old working man came up with a blue jean shirt and galluses over the shirt and a tattered straw hat and began a conversation about the weather. I told him it did not matter much whether it was hot or cold, provided only we could get some rain. "Where do you come from", said he? I told him I was on my way to Connecticut. "That is a fine State," he said. "I have been there to the City of Providence." I said, "Yes, it is a lovely State, with beautiful green hills." "Y s", he said, "and it has many fine factories." "Have you ever been here in Clifton Springs before," he asked. "Oh, yes," I said, "many times." I can remember Dr. Foster who founded the Sanitarium." "You can," he said, "I can't believe that. How old are you?" "Well," I said, "how old do you think?" He looked at me out of one good eye, the other one obviously bad, and said, "Well, sir, you are between forty and fifty." "No," I said, "I am sixty-six." "Gosh", he said, "that can't be, you look like a very young man."

"Yes", I said, "and you are sixty-seven." "Gosh," he said, "how did you know that? I am just sixty-eight. But I am an old man!" And he pulled off his hat and showed me his bald head, and I took off mine and showed him my grey hair. Then he told me all about his life as a young man at Tupper Lake, and then in Rex Wheeler's home in northwestern Pennsylvania, and then in Western Philadelphia. But he said, "for five years I have not had a job. My eyes are not good, and I am not strong. I just couldn't hold a job." "Yes, I said, "you have seen a good deal of the world. You were not born in this country. You were born in Sweden." "Gosh," he said, "how did you know that? You are one darn smart man. You are much smarter than you look to be." So, we talked on, and then the train came, and I had to leave him.

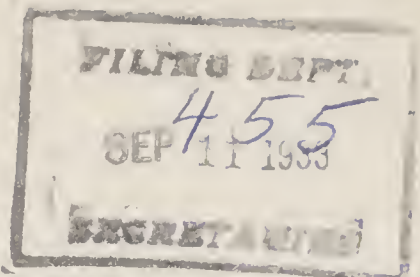
I heard a good story at the Lutheran Convention also this week. A lady met a small boy with two dogs. Lady. "Have both those dogs got licenses on them?" Boy. "No Mam." "The big one is all right, but the little one is full of 'em." Mother will frown at this story but Patty and Bill will accept it, especially as Patty had to give Joan's little dog a thorough lysol bath last week, in which Joan participated in the slaughter of the innocents!

I had a long conversation some days ago with one of our Fundamentalist friends one of whose difficulties was his idea that Dick Ritter is a dangerous Communist. He had got this from Chancellor Araie Kok's long document, which Dr. Machen has included in his pamphlet, which has been scattered over the wide world. He was strong in his criticism of "Truth and Life", but knew nothing of it except, I think, what he had read in Chancellor Kok's statement. I asked Dr. Scott if he could tell me anything about "Truth and Life" and he has just shown me a copy of it, containing Dick's sermon preached at Yenching on January 1st, in which, alas! I cannot find the Name of Christ or a word about Christianity or its power and the bearing of the meaning of Christ on the whole principle and practice of prayer. I wonder if Dick could not say something more than was said in this sermon?

I must be stopping now and going to a on-day prayer meeting. It was good to get your last letter, telling of the successful closing of the year, and of your hope of getting off for a little visit with the Fergusons at Peitaiho.

With dearest love,

RES:G.



August 24, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dearest Marnie:

I am working hard to clear off the last remaining correspondence before tomorrow night as the offices are closed on Saturday and I have to go to Syracuse to speak and would like to be able to get off to Lakeville on Monday. Maybe I shall have to be here for Monday and Tuesday but then I surely hope to get away for the whole of September, or at any rate until the last week.

I came down from Rockledge on Monday night in a rain storm which has lasted ever since until this afternoon. Last evening when I tried to go home the rain was coming down in sheets. I dodged about and over into Childs for supper and into the doorways but was well drenched from my waist down when I reached home. I judge we must have had five or six inches of rain the last three days, which would be more than we have had, I imagine, in the preceding six weeks. The city looked wonderfully clean today, but I judge the Atlantic Sea Coast must be a sight. Whole streets in Atlantic City were washed away and Miss Kittredge has been telling me of a cottage belonging to her friends at Rehoboth, Delaware, that has gone clean into the sea. The rain was sorely needed, however, and I only hope it has filled up our Lakeville reservoirs which were very low when Billy and I walked by them last Sunday.

When I came down Patty said she was expecting to be here for some night this week but I have had no further word from her. Perhaps I will find her at the apartment tonight or tomorrow night. She and Bob and Joan are expecting to sail for Liverpool on the "Georgic", leaving sometime the second week in September. Billy will be going to Asheville about the same time. He has bought Bob's and Pat's old Ford to travel in.

I am sorry to have to report that the receipts are still falling behind. The declension for the year on August first was about twenty-seven or twenty-eight per cent. If that keeps up we shall be simply in the face of disaster at the end of the year. The situation is rendered far more serious also by the devaluation of the American dollar.

We may have to come down to the simplicity of the Moslem and Buddhist devotees described in the enclosed clippings which my cousin Nellie Orbison has sent me from India. I am sending with these a copy of Tagore's letter to Gandhi, which may interest you. The newspaper reports seem to indicate that Gandhi's fasting has pretty much dropped out of the interest of India. It never was a matter of very great interest here in the west. I have thought for years, and I think intimated in our report on India eleven years ago, that there were forces using Mr. Gandhi which would drop him whenever they had served their purpose with him. One would like to know the real inside of Brahmin influence and organization in India. I don't believe it ever intended to let Mr. Gandhi go further than it wanted him to or than would advance its interests.

Miss Margaret Mailey Speer

- 2 -

August 24, 1933

I had a very nice letter from a Roman Catholic Priest in Vermont expressing his satisfaction with "The Finality of Jesus Christ." Please let me know whether you have received the copy of the book.

Billy is greatly entertained by the old Logs of the Nantucket whaling ships which came to the Board through the bequest of a piece of property and all that it contained in Nantucket. He wants to buy them from the Board to take with him down to Asheville. The skipper was guide and poet. No and then he adorns the Log with a bit of verse and he wrote one or two longer volumes of verse.

I tried to get a copy of an amazing book which my younger brother Victor wrote some years ago containing the Memoirs of a famous Canadian detective named Murray. I am afraid the book is out of print but I am hoping I can get a copy from the original publishers.

I am wondering how you spent the rest of the summer after your days at Tengshien and whether it rained on you all the time there. The paper this morning says that General Feng has been staying at Tengshien and that the Nanking government has now offered him the position of Inspector General of the Chinese armies.

Revell is finding some difficulty in the way of accepting the biography of Dr. Lewis. He thinks there will be very little market for it, and he is quite right. I don't believe more than a few hundred copies of the book could be sold. It may be that we cannot get it published at all in the regular trade and may have to print it privately, which can be done of course very cheaply. I have written fully to Mrs. Lewis and shall hope to hear from her shortly.

With dearest love from us all,

RJS:B

W. C. Fawell

THE WESLEY FOUNDATION

DEVOTED TO RELIGIOUS WELFARE
OF
2000 METHODIST STUDENTS
AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

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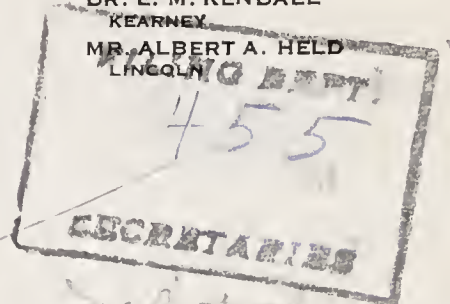
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SEP 1 1933

Ans.

4/4.33



Julia Whittaker

Dr. Robert E. Speer;
Board of Foreign Missions,
Presbyterian Church,
New York, City, N. Y.

My Dear Dr. Speer:

You probably received word of the death of Mr. Ira Whittaker, who passed away June 10th 1933 at Lincoln, Nebraska. It was my privilege as pastor to minister to the wife, Mrs. Whittaker and the daughter Julia in their hour of sorrow and need.

I am writing you now on behalf of Julia with the hope that you might be able to offer her some assistance that will enable Julia to enter the University of Nebraska as a Freshman this Fall. Mr. Whittaker left some property but it is all so encumbered that it will be years before there is any income from it. Mrs. Whittaker has turned the property over to a Land Bank to handle for her and expects to make some settlement at the end of three years when Julia is of age. At present if Mrs. Whittaker had the farms sold she could not realize more than \$2000.00 and even this amount would depend upon a favorable sale. The tenants on the farms have been shiftless. The properties consisting of three small houses have been rented to parties that have not paid rent. The only income Mrs. Whittaker has is the weekly check of about \$10.00 per week she receives for her work at the Laundry. Out of this she is paying the funeral expenses and the living for Julia and herself. She told me that she would like to see Julia enter the University this Fall but she would not be able to manage it. She also said that she could manage for Julia's clothes and she would live at home. She does not have the money for the tuition books and other necessary expense. She even suggested that I write you about the matter asking if it would be possible to arrange a loan which Julia would be able to pay back when she receives her share of the estate to be settled later as I have indicated.

I have talked with Julia's Professors of the Teachers College High School where she graduated in June. They are very much interested in her and say that she is a bright girl that ought to have the opportunity of College or University training. Teachers of the High School have taken a personal interest in her and helped her in the home and in other ways last year. I helped Julia to

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attend our Epworth League Institute this summer. She enjoyed it and is going forward with the young people in their activities at the little Church I serve as pastor in connection with our Methodist Student work. We are now using Julia as a teacher in our Primary Dept of the Sunday School. She is talented and with the proper training she ought to make a successful teacher.

Now I am wondering if you would be able to secure for her a loan of \$100.00 to cover her necessary expenses for the year at the University of Nebraska. I am quite sure that I could secure a loan of \$50. after the first semester from the Student Loan Fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They do not allow Freshmen to receive loans until after they have completed the first semesters work. Julia and her Mother have been affiliated with our Methodist Church because it is near their home.

I have talked over Julia's situation with my friend and colleague Dr. Dean Leland, University pastor for Presbyterian students. I have asked him to add a word regarding Julia in addition to the representation I have made to you. He is familiar with the situation and feels that perhaps together we can work out some plan where by Julia may enter the University of Nebraska this Fall. The University of Nebraska opens this year on Sept. 11th.

Thanking you for consideration of this matter,

I am,

Sincerely,

W. C. Fawell.

FILING DEPT.
455
4 1933
SECRETARIES

October 2nd 1933

Rev. W. C. Favell,
The Wesley Foundation,
1417 A. Street,
Lincoln, Nebraska.

My Dear Mr. Favell,

Under date of September 14 I answered your letter which was without date regarding Julia Wittaker and enclosed a check for \$100. in order to make it possible for her, in accordance with your letter, to enter the University of Nebraska this fall. I have not heard whether my letter was received or not, or whether you have been able to make arrangements for Julia in the University as you and Dr. Leland had planned. I shall be very glad if you will let me know what has been done.

Very sincerely yours,

RFH:C.

FILING DEPT
455
SECRETARIES

October 9, 1945

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear,
Teaching University
Tainping, China

My dear Miss Bailey:

I think I wrote you last Sunday evening, October 8th, which was the last day of my vacation at Rockledge. I came down on the early morning train the next day and have had a very full and interesting week since. On Tuesday afternoon I went down to Salisbury, Maryland, to serve in the all day Pilgrimage on October 4th, which visited the five churches founded by Francis Beane, 150 years ago, which were the first Presbyterian Churches established in the United States. It was a perfect autumn day and we had a 100 mile automobile ride from Salisbury to Princess Anne, from there to Kent, then to the monument out in the country marking the site of Beane's grave, thence past the Pocomoke and Snow Hill Churches to Salisbury. All the meetings except the evening meeting were in the open air. The arrangements for the day were perfect and is one of the best experiences I can remember. I think some account of the day will be published with the addresses, in which case I will try to get one for you.

I came back to New York Thursday, getting up at half past five in the morning and had the afternoon and the next evening. I then went off to speak Friday evening at Media, Pa. This is in Chester Presbytery, which is the stronghold of the fundamentalist support of Dr. Echen and the new Board of Missions. The Presbytery by a large majority, however, has stood loyally by the General Assembly and its agencies and has a church full of people most of them altogether sympathetic, although I saw a few carriers of the opposition there taking notes. I had to leave immediately after speaking and so missed talking with Miss Burroughs and many other friends whom I saw in the audience. I got back to New York at midnight.

Saturday I went back to Rockledge to speak at the School yesterday morning. The two days were perfect and rather and I took long walks each afternoon. These are the first long walks that she has taken all summer and she seemed none the worse for them although the first one we three hiked over the hills and through the woods, visiting the forty acre tract of woods which we call Nehob's vineyard because so long so to possess it. It is an unspoiled piece of woodland which with a little forestry care could be made perfectly ideal.

This evening I filled a big box with flowers from the garden to bring down to the office and some of them are on the table now. We have had no frosts as yet and the gardens are glorious still in their coloring. Our wonderful morning glories are still blooming and I am hoping that this year we will be able to get our own seeds. We have been transplanting a number of your hollyhocks and shall hope to have them in bloom next year.

Mother and Fanny and Corrie expect to come down on Friday. Fanny goes on to Washington soon for her job there but Corrie is to stay with us through the winter.

It has been good to get your letters every week, the last of them containing the receipt of the patches garments, which mother has sent you. She has a number of shirts of 'atty' to go to you and we would have sent them by Mrs. Charles Lewis but did not want to burden her.

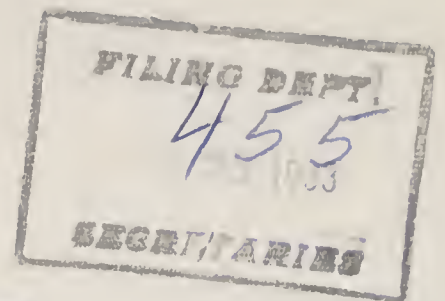
I enclose a beautiful picture from the New Yorker which Bill Sporer cut out and sent to me. Dr. Sporer in the picture looks much more like President Roosevelt, which reminds me that the Nakenie celebration is to be consummated next Friday evening at a great dinner in Baltimore where Mr. Roosevelt and I am to be the speakers.

Everybody is putting on a brave front in America now and talking hopefully but everything is at a standstill and seems just the same as to where we are going and what all the present doings will result in. I presume when the issue comes we won't be any wiser because some will say it came because of the W.P.A and our other proceedings and others will declare that it came in spite of them and would have come earlier without them. Thus far the chief effect has been to raise prices and Bill Jenks has only scorn to pour on all our present legislation and he seems to think that he reflected the common opinion in Litchfield and Dutchess Counties. He says that though the new measures have not increased employment though they have diminished hours and accordingly made all service less efficient and have advanced prices for everyone. Whether this is true generally I cannot say. Dr. James Spores says that business is much better than it was although in the matter of wages and hours the new management seem to be very cumbersome.

We have seen no beneficial effect as yet of systematic contributions. The receipts are about 25% behind last year. I have just been dictating a statement on the subject for the Budget and Finance Committee of the General Council of our Church, pointing out that if this continues we shall face the most difficult situation in our foreign mission work next spring which the Board has ever had to deal in all its history.

I saw that Mr. McTurry has just been appointed our government's representative to Latvia. An intimation is that this is in preparation for his appointment as our first minister to Rumania.

With dearest love,



October 19, 1933

Mrs Margaret Bailey Spier
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dear Mr. Marnie:

I have been moving to and fro and up and down in the land since writing to you Monday a week ago. The day following I went down to Princeton for the meeting of the Trustees and to attend the Re-Dedication of the Seminary Chapel, which has been moved to the center of the Seminary Campus and restored to its original colonial beauty. It is one of the loveliest Chapels now that I know of in its austere purity and its simple, homelike naturalness. The next day I was in Pittsburgh at the meeting of our Committee on Union with the United Presbyterians, and we ironed out the whole question and have the plan now in hand for presentation to the General Assemblies next spring. I think our own Assembly will approve although Dr. Machen and his group will bitterly oppose it and declare that it will be the occasion of the division of the Church.

Mother and Fanny and Carrie came down from Rockledge on Friday, October 15th, but I did not see them until the next day as I had to go to Baltimore that afternoon to speak at the dinner of the Presbyterian Social Union of Maryland, closing the celebration of the Makemie Memorial meetings. Mrs. Roosevelt and I were the speakers and I am sorry I haven't copies of the photographs which the newspaper men took of Mrs. Roosevelt and me holding hands and gazing soulfully in one another's eyes. She spoke very nicely - very simply and sensibly. She and a friend had driven alone that day from New York to Washington and then one of the White House cars had brought her back in the evening to Baltimore. She was a very nice homelike person.

The next day, Saturday, the 16th, I went up to Northfield to attend Mr. Will Moody's funeral. He has been failing for some years and of late has been failing very fast so that his death had been anticipated for some time. Uncle Ned and Aunt Lucy were there and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Baker and many other friends. It was one of the most beautiful autumn days that I have ever seen and the foliage can never have been more glorious. If heaven is fairer than earth then we have no language in which to describe its beauty.

It was good to have Sunday at home here. I spoke in the Fifth Avenue Church morning and afternoon. That poor Church is still without a minister, and will be, I am afraid, for some time. A Scotchman whom it had called has declined to come. I spoke in the morning on Chinese Gordon, as this is the year of the centennial of his birth. In the evening we had Mr. Paton of the International Missionary Council for supper. He is a good solid and true person.

This week has been another full week for both mother and me. I spoke in Philadelphia Monday evening before a great crowd of young people - about 1500, showing that the Christian Endeavor movement is far from extinct. Tuesday I spoke at the Synod of New Jersey at Atlantic City and yesterday at the Synod of New York at Glens Falls.

Mother has been speaking too, here and there. She was at the Women's Spiritual meeting at Hudson Falls while I was at Glens Falls, and she is going to teach Gush, I believe, tomorrow evening. However she goes she takes the people's hearts and souls both.

Billy and Elmer are over at Glen Street helping Mrs. Dallas clean up things. I had an hour with Caroline and George at Mount Vernon after the General and Elliott drove us down to Springfield so that we had a good visit together. A fine long letter came from Billy this week describing the beginnings of his career as an educator. He is very happy and evidently has many reformatory ideas which I trust he will have to carry putting into execution until he becomes a Good Master.

We have had one of the most beautiful Octobers I think that we have ever had. There have been two or three rainy days but for the rest the skies have been almost cloudless and the trees richer in color than ever, due to the ample rains we had in August and September and the long delay in the frosts which have only now begun to come.

You will be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter from the Archbishop of York which came the other day, containing his comment on "So-Thinking Missions." Dr. Merrill spoke on the back of the New York Synod in his straightforward manly way, indicating very clearly a number of his points of divergence from it. I wish he had written himself a sincerity report. I think it would have been a good thing for the Commission and for the cause. I haven't seen Dr. Hooking for a long time but I don't think our sharp divergences over the Report has modified the warmth of friendship. One of the things for which our ultra fundamentalist friends have blamed us most has been my failure to condemn Dr. Hooking, Dr. Merrill and the rest as the agents of Satan.

The receipts are still falling off and I shiver to think of the problem that we are going to be facing next spring if this continues, aggravated of course by the falling of the value of the American dollar, which was quoted last before past week as 22 cents gold and yesterday about 71.

Hebony could complain of my lack of missionary interest or of my rate a willingness to hear about missions. Wherever we go there is no difficulty in getting an audience and all over our Church, with only the slightest exceptions, we are meeting with loyalty and devotion. I don't know what the outcome will be of the other element of incurrection which has just expressed itself in the organization of the new Mission Board with Dr. Hooking as President. I promise they will have Chancellor Eric Rok as one of their China correspondents.

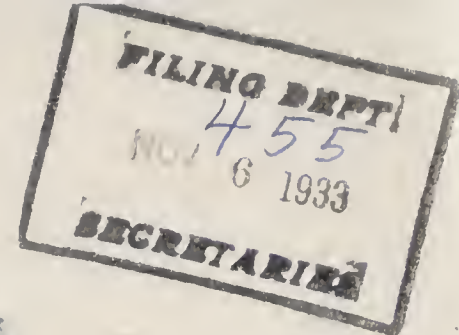
October 19, 1957

Revell has shown me a good deal of reviews of "The Stability of Jesus Christ," almost all of them most warm and cordial, but with a few stringent dissenting notes, one of which is Fitzhugh's in the October issue of the International Review of Missions. On the other hand I have a very warm letter from Dr. Clime.

I am sorry to say that Dr. McKim is not at all well. He is in the Hospital in Philadelphia. Uncle Ned keeps bravely on his way but he is carrying a pretty heavy load, and not satisfied with his own he is always bearing the burden of others.

With kindest love,

MS:3



November 1, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Spear
Yenching University
Peiping, China.

My dearest Missie:

Your last week's letter reporting that you had been down with a cold has been received. I trust that you have thrown this off now and are quite well again.

I don't remember just where I left off in my last letter and whether I told you of the nice visit I had with Uncle Ed and Aunt Elizabeth in Harrisburg on Tuesday, the 24th. I had gone over in the morning to Philadelphia to a meeting of the Committee on the Kingsford College for Women in Lahore, India, and went out in the afternoon to Harrisburg and had dinner with Uncle Ed and Aunt Elizabeth - a grand central Pennsylvania dinner, and then drove down to Carlisle for an evening meeting, getting back here Wednesday morning.

That evening mother and I went to the Annual Dinner in the interests of Latin America, held under the auspices of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, of which I have been chairman since its establishment nearly twenty years ago. We had a very nice company of people and three good addresses, the last of them a magnificent address by Dr. John Mackey who is just back from South America where he is greatly loved and where he has remarkable access, both for the Christian Churches and to the intellectual groups.

All of the next day I spent at the Annual Meeting of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America where we had some excellent discussion, which brought out very clearly the two currents that are running in the Church today, namely: the humanistic-sociological current on the one hand, and the new religious current whose spirit and bases are well illustrated in John Mackey's article on "Re-Thinking Missions" in the April issue of the International Review. John tells me that a group of young men of which he is one and Pitney Van Dusen and Francis Miller and others are members, which represents the deep impact which the Barthian Movement is making. To these men, the traditional, humanistic, theological view of the last generation is simply a futile and impotent anachronism.

Saturday evening I went up to Bridgeport to speak at two meetings and then got home late and then spoke twice on Sunday in the Fifth Avenue Church - in the morning on Foreign Missions in connection with the meetings which are being held all over the city these days as part of the series of interdenominational foreign mission conferences which are being held across the country. These conferences are proving a great success and making a deep impression and are infuriating the "Christian Century" because they belie its contention that the missionary

enterprise is dead and can only be reconstructed on the basis of "Re-Thinking Missions." The "Christian Century" of this week publishes a straightforward letter of Stanley Jones attacking its position and answers it in a reply that is pitiful in its ignorance and prejudice and mental and spiritual conceit and obstinacy.

On Monday I went to the Ministers' Meeting of the Conference in the Riverside Church, which was very well attended and at which Stanley Jones made a very effective address coming out more unequivocally than ever in his rejection of the theology of "Re-Thinking Missions." In the afternoon we had denominational meetings and I spoke at the Presbyterian group. No one is being shackled in these meetings with the result that Bishop Roots and some others are supporting "Re-Thinking Missions, while Dr. Jones and others speak as emphatically on the other side. I think I sent you a copy of a note which I had a little while ago from the Archbishop of York regarding "Re-Thinking Missions." You will be interested in the following translation of the conclusion of an article on the book by a Jesuit priest in "Catholic Missions" for August:

"These laymen have before their eyes a future kind of Christianity without the cross of Christ, without his Resurrection, without the Holy Spirit and kindness and grace, without the Church and without sacraments. Rather should I say it is no Christianity at all, but a vague belief in a pantheistic deity and a religion of humanitarianism. Many European missions, even those of the Protestant Church, will undoubtedly repudiate this report, but the majority of the Americans will find it to their heart. And in this way their so-called mission will more and more be degraded into a social, educational, and philanthropic reform movement friendly to the deadly enemy of true religion, namely, syncretism."

One of the keenest criticisms of the report that I have seen is Bishop Visser't Hooft's review entitled "Spineless Missions" in the Third Quarter issue of "The Student World" for 1933.

I have good letters from Rex Wheeler reporting the visit of Miss Lyon and Miss van Asch van Veek of the Young Women's Christian Association in Nanking. I hope they got to Peiping also and that you will be seeing them there.

We are expecting Professor Richter of Berlin and John Mackay for dinner this evening and then on Friday we are going up to Rockledge to drive up to Mount Hermon for the week-end.

We had good letters from Fatty this morning with wonderful paintings which Joan had made. The letter was from Mysie's house, but by this time I suppose they will be settled in their own house at 5 Dullwich Wood Park, London, S.E. 19. The goods which they had in Baltimore have been sent forward to them and they have got furniture down from Edinburgh.

I have got some good material out of an old book that I have been reading recently - Dr. Charles Hodge's "History of the Presbyterian Church." I enclose an extract from it which lays down principles which are being grossly ignored at present by one faction in our Church here. I don't see how it can go on much longer in its lawlessness and rebellion.

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer

- 3 -

November 1, 1913

With dearest love from us all,

November 3, 1953
(Dict. Nov. 2)

Mr. William Speer,
Asheville School for Boys,
Asheville, North Carolina.

My dearest Billy:

There is a long interval between your letters, but they are worth while when they come. Mother and I were delighted to get the last one telling of the developments of your work and of your various interests. I trust that something may come of your furniture designing. Perhaps you might go beyond the designing to the actual handy-work. You may remember the story I told you about Mr. Forbes who succeeded Dr. Stearns as Headmaster at Andover and the pieces of furniture which he made to complete the set, part of which he had bought at a sale in England. When he got through, the pieces that he had made could not be distinguished from the originals.

OK
I enclose herewith copy of a letter to Marnie which will give you the latest family news. Elliott has just called up on the telephone to say that he is down here for today and tomorrow for various meetings with school representatives dealing with examination problems. He is very busy and has one of the Masters with him. They are staying at the Princeton Club and is not sure when he can get down to "24".

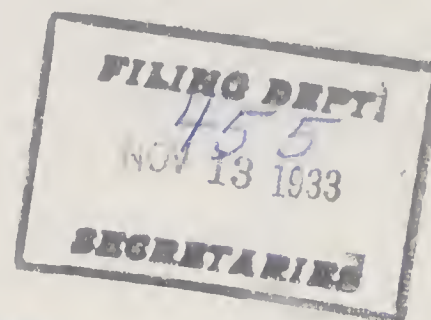
We had an interesting little party last evening with Dr. and Mrs. John Mackay of Summit and Professor Richter of Berlin at dinner. Dr. Richter got mixed up in the address, and after waiting half an hour, I thought I had better go out to see if I couldn't find him somewhere in the streets. Providentially I ran right into him in front of the National Arts Club. He had been wandering all around our part of New York looking for some Gramercy Park Building on 24th Street. It was fascinating to get his impressions of Germany. He is not a Nazi or a "German Christian" but sees no hope for Germany except through Hitler who he claims is the only alternative to communism.

A good letter came from Patty a day or two ago. It was written from Mysie's house. She said that they were having their new home repapered and hoped to move into it very soon.

Mother and I are going to a China Universities' luncheon tomorrow at the Hotel Commodore and are catching the special Friday afternoon train for Millerton and driving up to Mount Hermon on Saturday.

With dearest love -

RES:AMW



November 9, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Sprer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dearest Marnie:

Mother has gone off to Utica today to speak at a Y. W. C. A. meeting there this evening, returning tomorrow. She is so chipper and active these days that she thinks nothing of going off on these trips, making numerous addresses and coming home whether by night or by day.

Last Friday we went together to the China Universities luncheon at the Commodore Hotel, where Bishop Roots and Dr. Wu of Ginling and Herman Liu spoke. It was a very nice company of people - some three hundred all together, about half of whom one recognized at once as old friends. I counted only about ten or a dozen people there who might be thought of as giving prospects and the others were all the old stand-bys. I saw Mrs. Mead and she told me that Lawrence and his wife were there but I did not get a glimpse of them.

After the luncheon Mother and I took the train for Millerton and the next day drove up to Mount Vernon. It was a cloudless, crisp early winter day and we had a beautiful drive and then a most happy Sunday with Elliott and Holly and the children. They were mourning the death of little Happy, their tiny Boston terrier who had been in the veterinary's hands at Greenfield. They still have big Andy, the Newfoundland dog, who looks like a bear. It will be a mercy if he does not get shot some time as a bear. He has already been mistaken by some of the country people as one.

I spoke at the two services of the girls in the Seminary on Sunday and then Mother and I went to supper at the old Hillside Cottage where I staid the first time I went to Northfield in 1887 when John Forman of India and I kept house together and took in all the waifs and strays that came drifting to the conference with no other place to live. After supper we had a little evening forum with a number of the girls and you may be interested in the questions which they wrote out and which Mother and I tried to answer:

Who or what is God?

Just why do you consider the Christian religion far superior to Mohammedism or Hinduism, etc.? Have they not the same ideas as Christianity? Were they not at least Mohammedism, sponsored through an earthly being such as Christ?

What would you call Christianity if not religion?

Do you think it right for Catholics and Protestants to marry?

What did you mean by the message sent by the friend of yours, the Catholic priest? I didn't understand the message. Will you please explain it?

It seems that God is one who is very inspirational but who stands off and looks on. To what extent is He able to help one?

Is there any such thing as fate? Some circumstances causing untold suffering are inevitable.

How may religion be really dynamic? Reasoning proves that there is a God and there are and have been living examples where lives have been completely changed by some religious experiences. Why are there so few thus privileged?

Perhaps Christianity is a religion which grows upon one? God though he has power to change circumstances gives us the chance of developing character by overcoming our own obstacles rather than helping us and making mechanical paragonage with no power of shaping our own destiny?

Monday morning the country was white with snow and we drove back to Lakeville, stopping for luncheon at South Egmont. The next day was election day so we staid on at Lakeville getting home in the afternoon and listening in in the evening over the radio to the election returns. One hopes for better things now from the new administration. I think LaGuardia is an honest man but I am not sure how good his judgment is.

We have not heard from Pa ty since they got settled in their new home but shall hope to hear soon now.

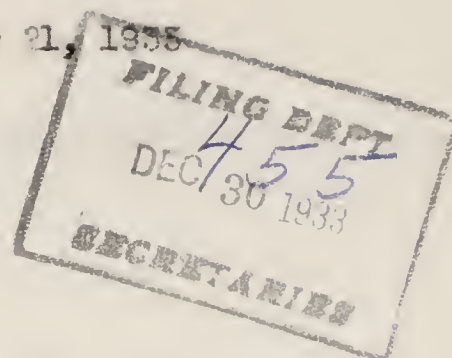
I enclose a copy of the address which I made at the Makemie celebration on October 4th.

With dearest love,

RMS:B

December 21, 1933

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer,
Yenching University,
Peiping West,
Hopei, China.



My dearest Marnie:

Christmas is very near now, and I had a lovely note this morning from Caroline telling us how eagerly they were looking forward to our coming on Saturday and to Christmas day.

Billy got home safely last Sunday evening, having driven in the Ford with one of the other teachers and two of the boys all the way from Asheville, something over nine hundred miles. They had left Asheville after lunch on Saturday, and had traveled right through without stopping except for a short time at the home of one of the boys in Pottstown. Billy has a great scheme now for trading in his old Ford and the Buick touring car for a new Ford touring car. He has it all worked out in figures but admits that it is all to his advantage. Of course with only mother and me at Rockledge we really do not need two cars, but then there is never any telling how many other people are to be there!

Billy has been making up sleep ever since he arrived, getting his breakfast each day about noon. He has an engagement with Barbara Hatch Saturday evening, so that mother and I and Mr. and Mrs. Wells will go up on the Saturday morning train and Billy will come up on Sunday.

I enclose herewith a money order for \$25 which is Uncle Ed's Christmas present to you, which came in a family check this morning. Uncle Ed has great affection and admiration for you and always asks after you in the tenderest way.

I enclose herewith a rough and uncorrected first draft of a statement to the Board which will show you the financial problem. It is not final but will be changed in many ways before it is sent to the Board. I am glad to say that for the first half of December there has been a decided improvement. The receipts for these fifteen days have held even with the corresponding period of last year.

A beautiful package of Sutton's flower seeds came this week as a Christmas present from Patty and Bob. Sutton's seeds, I suppose, are among the best in the world, but I don't know just how they will take to our Litchfield County soil and climate. We have heard of a place in northern Vermont where plants and seeds can be got extraordinarily cheap and where, of course, the conditions are such that anything that will thrive there can be counted on to thrive in northern Connecticut. Aunt Elizabeth has been getting things from this nursery for Eaglesmere, and we shall get some lilies and perennial asters for some big borders this summer. I have three long borders in mind at once that we should fill up.

All day yesterday we had a steady rain. I have been wondering whether there was rain or snow at Mount Hermon. Last year, if I remember right, we had a white Christmas there. Everything was snow white the first Sunday in

Miss Margaret Bailey Speer - 2.

December 21, 1953

November when mother and I were there.

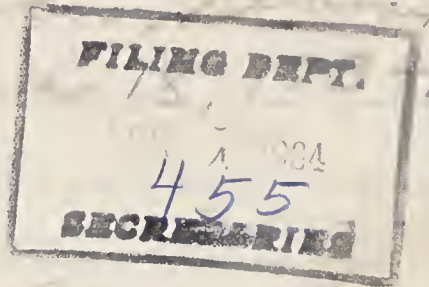
We had a nice little candlelight service at noon yesterday. We have our annual Christmas prayermeeting tomorrow afternoon, closing the offices at four o'clock and adding Saturday to the Christmas holiday.

With dearest love from us all -

RES:AMW

Mr. Maurice Whitaker

Thy



Dear Sir:

Could you loan me \$700 on my homestead in Heath County, Virginia? This consists of 480 acres of grazing land. I can also give you a note on one half of Joe Whitaker's estate which is mine. It consists of 220 acres near Lincoln which has \$13,000 mortgage on it; a section of grazing land in Heath County adjoining mine which has three years back taxes and a \$500 mortgage against it; 160 acres of land in Colorado with three years taxes against it which is nearly for a tax deed - there is \$160 tax against it. This land is worth 1600 and I would hate to lose it for that; there is

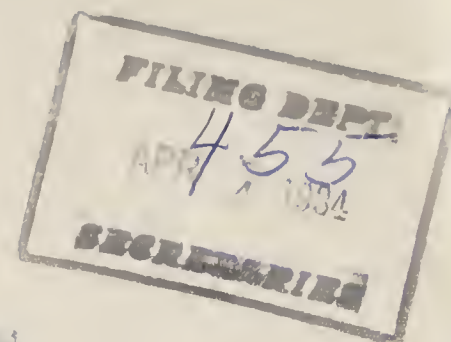
163 acres cheap timberland
in Oklahoma with 3 year
taxes against it. I have
houses in Texas with 3
year taxes against it.

I have applied for a
government loan but was
turned down because of
having too much other property
although it all has taxes
to be paid against it. On February
24 the court turned the
property over to Julia and
me in equal shares. Mr.
Spivey if you will loan me
the \$10,000 will save the present
for us and save me
anything until Julia comes of
age. I would like to have
you do could pay the inter. at
every six months and pay
much as you see fit on the
principal. For further details
concerning the estate, write
to Mr. E. C. ...

attorney or to W. J. Barkley,
President of the Joint Land Bank
which holds the mortgages
on the farms.

Julia has completed her
first semester in school and
is attending her second semester
classes. Her grades are all
good. She has an intelligence
quotient of 140 which is one of
the ten highest in the Freshman
class. She is now working
eight hours a week doing
stereographic work and compiling
for the extension department
of the community. She carried
16 hours the first semester
but only 14 hours this semester
on account of her work. She
likes her work very much
as well as church activities.

Sincerely yours,
Minnie Whittaker.



March 28, 1934
(Dictated March 24)

Mrs. Minnie Knittaker,
1530 Northside Avenue
Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dear Mrs. Knittaker:

Your letter of March 18th has been received with the enclosed letter to you, which I return herewith, from the Federal Land Bank of Omaha. As I understand from this letter the bank would be prepared to make the loan that you need on the security of your unencumbered real estate. If the loan is a good one and would justify you in seeking to secure it from any quarter I think the wise arrangement would be such as the bank suggests.

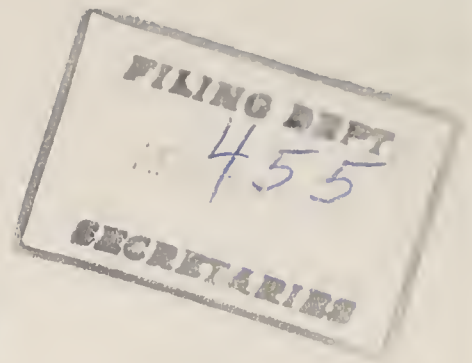
I am very sorry that I cannot undertake to make any loan. I have always acted on the principle of neither borrowing nor loaning but of being ready to give wherever one ought and could. For that reason I wrote with regard to Julia's University fee that I could not get any loan of the money for her but would be glad to see that it was provided as a gift which she was not to feel under obligations to pay, and I trust it may be possible to do this same thing again next fall. It is very good to hear about her and her work and I trust that she is going to be able to carry through her course in the University and be a great comfort to you in the coming years.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

MS:B

Dictated by Dr. Speer
Signed in his absence.



April 5, 1934

Dr. Robert F. Barbour,
5 Bullwich Wood Park,
London, S.E. 18,
England

My dear Bob:

A few months ago an old and dear friend of our family passed away - Mr. W. Henry Grant. He was a layman who gave up his business as a young man and devoted himself at his own charges to a life-long service of good causes, especially the Foreign Missions cause. Lingnan University in Canton, China stands as his special monument.

For many years he was with us during the hay fever season at Diamond Pond. He and I had many happy fishing trips together. He was very much interested in photography and after his death his nephew turned over to me the Diamond Pond photographs which his uncle had left. I have picked out of these the pictures of Patty's childhood and enclose these, with one or two pictures of Marnie, for your entertainment.

Billy went back to Asheville on Tuesday. We had a telegram from him last evening reporting his safe arrival. Elliott was down also for the day but had to go back to Mount Hermon in the evening.

Our winter seems to be ending at last and we have had several nice spring days but the green is coming very slowly in Gramercy Park. The tulips are up but I can see no sign of life as yet in the shrubbery. Bill Jenks writes that the snow is almost gone at Rockledge, that he has painted the barn with a new coat of white paint and is getting one of the cars in commission for us. We are hoping to go up on the 19th to have our wedding anniversary at Rockledge and then to drive on the next day for Sunday at Mount Hermon.

Mother has taken her passage on the Tuscania, I think for Glasgow on May 12th and her return passage toward the end of June. I am sorry it will not be possible for me to come with her. I would love to come to see you and Patty and Joan, and also to escape the Presbyterian General Assembly at this end but perhaps I can do the latter by going off to Rockledge.

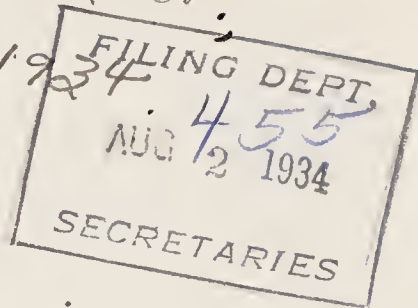
With dearest love from us all,

RES:B

Julia Whittaker

Lincoln, Neb.

July 22, 1934



Dr. Robert E. Speer
Board of Foreign Missions,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter. Mother misbaid it so I did not write sooner. Are there other members of my father's family living in Huntingdon? If so, I should like to write to them. There are so few members living.

It has been very hot and dry here. I have tried to obtain employment, but there seems to be none. I should like to go on to University, but can't get work and my financial difficulties prevent me from continuing. In another year I can get a second grade certificate. Conditions are terrible in the middle-west. This is a farming region and so when the crops are burned up, it is bad. I am afraid our crops are all burned. There are many unable to even work for their board.

Very sincerely yours,
Julia Whittaker

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July 27, 1934

Miss Julia Whittaker,
Lincoln,
Nebraska.

My dear Julia:

I was glad to get your letter of July 23 and sorry to hear of the difficulty that you were experiencing in finding work. How much more than the \$100 that I sent you last year would you need in order to be able to take this coming year at the University and get your second grade certificate?

Have you talked the matter over fully with the Methodist faculty student adviser who wrote me in your behalf last year? I should think it would be very well if you could talk fully with him, and I know that Dr. Dean Leland, who has just retired as our Presbyterian student pastor, would be glad to advise with you in any way.

Very cordially yours,

RES:AMW

October 19, 1964

Mr. William Speer,
Asheville School For Boys,
Asheville, N.C.

My dearest Lilly,

I enclose herewith copies of two letters to Marnie.

I had a good talk with Mr. Fry one evening last week and on Tuesday evening of this week mother and I had dinner with him and Mrs. Fry here at the Union League Club and we talked all evening over the Mount Hermon situation. I do not know whether there is any light on it or not; sometimes it seems as though what little light the police think they have is only darkness. We are doing everything we can to be of assistance to them, but that everything is almost nothing. I have been all over Elliott's letters and papers and can find no clue of any kind whatsoever, nor anything to indicate any difficulty or trouble with anyone.

It is good to get your letters each week and we think of you all day long with love and prayer.

Your very loving,

RES:C.

FILING DEPT.
455
OCT 23 1934
SECRETARIES

October 24, 1934
(Dict. Oct. 22)

Miss Julia Whittaker,
1530 Northside Avenue,
Lincoln, Nebraska.

My dear Julia:

not filed

I was glad to get your letter of October 15 with its message of sympathy with us in Elliott's death and with its word about your own plans. I am glad that you will be able to go on this year, but I judge that you will be able to use any help that may be available, and I am enclosing, accordingly, a check for \$100 from the same friend who was glad to help a year ago but whose name is not to be known. I should think that it would be well if you would repay the church loan so that you will be free of any debt, and you are not to regard either this or the money that was sent you a year ago as a loan to be returned. They are friendly help to enable you to get your teacher's certificate.

I know how much you and your mother must miss your brother and what a help he would surely be to you if he were with you in these days. We miss our boy more and more and will miss him as long as life lasts.

With kind regard to your mother and yourself -

Very cordially yours,

RES:AMW

Enc. 1

November 3, 1964

Mr. William Speer,
Asheville School for Boys
Asheville, North Carolina

My dearest Billy:

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of The Princeton Alumni Weekly, which comes to you at 24 Gramercy Park. Would you not prefer to have the address changed so that it would come to you directly at Asheville? On page 134 you will find the notice about Elliott written by Erdman Harris. Will you cut this out when you have read it and let me have it back and I will have copies of it made for Marnie and Patty?

I am sending with it a copy of "The Christian Century Pulpit," for November, containing the sermon of Elliott's of which I sent you a copy some time ago. You will find a note about him on page 262, which erroneously states that he was head of Lafayette.

Holly is still in bed with a trained nurse in attendance, but is looking very much better and hopes to go up with mother and me by train next Saturday for the Memorial Service at Mount Hermon on Sunday.

Margot is still with us and very happy and loving. I took her up to school All Saints Day morning and then mother and I went to the service at Father Sutton's in Trinity Chapel on 75th Street. It is a very High Church Chapel where they believe in prayers for the dead and Elliott's name was read. Father Sutton had written two beautiful notes about him to mother. I have never shared the traditional Protestant antipathy to prayers for the dead. I don't see why it isn't rational and right for us to pray for them as well as for the living. They are praying for us and I believe that God is glad to hear our prayers for them, although they have no need of such that they need to pray for for us.

I have to go out to speak at the Women's College in New Brunswick tomorrow morning but hope to get back in time for dinner. Then I shall have a busy week although happily we shall have a holiday on Tuesday. I don't believe I shall get up to Lakeville to vote, though I should like to go to vote for Uncle Joe Estill again, and I think I would vote for Senator Walcott.

I sprained my right wrist in some way last week so that it has been painful even to sign my name. I have almost made up my mind to learn to write with my left hand so as to be prepared against any emergency. Poor Dr. McLowell of the Board of National Missions has had a hard time. He

has only one arm you know and he was in an automobile accident in Kansas which broke it so that he has had to lie in bed in the hospital with the use of neither arm. He told a friend who came to see him that he didn't mind the pain but he did mind the itch.

I am afraid we shan't get to Rockledge in the near future. Mother and I had planned to go up on Friday and drive up to Northfield but Holly is going to the Memorial Service if Jean Pat will allow and wants to go up by train so that we will go up together on Saturday noon and come back Sunday afternoon in order that Holly may be away from the children as short a time as possible.

I enclose herewith a clipping from the Montclair Times that will amuse you. Please send it on to Marnie when you write to her. I think they must have sent down to the State penitentiary to have got the picture which they printed.

It is good to feel Elliott's presence every minute and to know how earnestly and joyfully his spirit will be trying to help us all the days to come.

With dearest love,

RES:B

Mrs. Charles D. Speer

November 8, 1954

FILING DEPT
NOV 13 1954
SECRETARY

My dear Cousin Myrtle,

Mrs. Speer and I are very grateful for the letter from you and Charles and John and Louise, and its message of loving sympathy with us in our great loss. We are mindful of it every moment, day and night, and especially did we live with it all of this last All Saints Day, when Elliott would have been thirty-six years old. Mrs. Speer and I went early in the morning to the All Saints Day service in Trinity Chapel on Twenty-fifth Street, just off Broadway, where the names of the members of that chapel and any others were read aloud. It is a very High Church service, but we were glad to be there, where Father Sutton, the priest of the chapel, as he would call himself, read our boy's name among those to be remembered in our prayers.

I have never had the Protestant shrinking from prayers for the dead. To be sure there is a sense in which they do not need our prayers, but there is another sense in which it seems to me that it is just as natural for us to pray for them as it is for them and for Our Lord to be praying for us before the throne of God in Heaven.

I wish you might have known Elliott and have seen him in these later years when his influence and power were so fast developing. Indeed, even his mother and I have been amazed at the testimonies that have poured in from all over the world with regard to the influence of his personality, his character and his work, and the hope with which great numbers of people were looking to him for fresh and courageous leadership in the field of Christian education and in the whole Cause of Christ.

I was speaking a few evenings ago in a course of Bible addresses in Montclair regarding the uses of death; one of them must surely be to dislodge us who remain from our ensconcement in this earthly life, by sundering the dearest ties that bind us to it and using those ties instead to bind us to another country, even an heavenly. One would fain hasten thither if it were not for those who must be cared for here, and for the work that is still to be done here which, though of secondary importance in comparison with the work of this life beyond is, none-the-less, the work that we must do who are not counted worthy as yet for that higher and freer service.

- 2 -

I enclose herewith a copy of the little note which we are sending out to friends whose letters from all over the world have come in like a flood of love and sympathy, bringing comfort and strength to us in our need.

With much love to you all,

Your affectionate cousin,

Mrs. Charles Arthur Speer,
415 W. Jefferson Street,
Washington, Iowa.

November 10, 1934
(Dict. Nov. 9)

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour,
5 Dullwich Wood Park,
London S. E. 19, England.

My dearest Patty:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter to Marnie in which you will find reference to the cablegram which came from you and Bob on All Saints Day. I enclose with it a copy of Aunt Helen Coleman's letter of September 16 to mother.

I have just come back from luncheon at home with mother and Mr. Welles and Margot. Either mother or I take Margot up to school at 8 o'clock each morning, and then either mother or Mr. Welles or Eleanor Brown brings her home. Miss Brown is Dr. Arthur J. Brown's daughter, and she has shown herself a true friend in these days in helping with the children. She will be taking Margot out in the Park this afternoon, so that mother will have the time to herself.

We are going up on the 5 o'clock train tomorrow evening to Northfield for the Memorial Service on Sunday morning. Holly is still planning to go, though Jean Pat would like her to stay here. Mr. and Mrs. Welles are going up on the same train with us, and Bob Russell is driving up, taking Kay with him. Uncle Ned has already gone up to be present at the Trustees' Meeting tomorrow morning. I think it is wiser that I should stay away from this meeting of the Trustees, as they will be able to discuss much more freely any pension questions.

I suppose that you came back from Skye last week.

With dearest love to you all -

RES:AMW

Encs. 2.

November 12, 1974

Miss Caroline McM. Speer
Care of Mr. Laird Barber
Riverside, Conn.

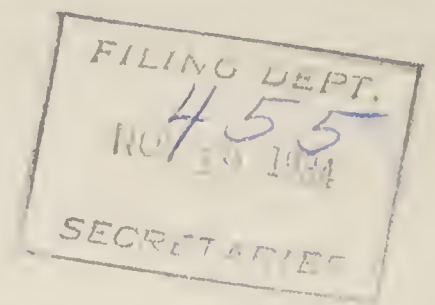
My Dear Caroline:

I enclose herewith a postal card which came for you from Aunt Marnie. She wrote it thinking that you and your mother and Eleanor and Margot were at Rockledge. She knows now that you are at Riverside and going to school in Greenwich. The postal card came while we were at breakfast this morning and Margot was greatly interested in it and wanted me to read it to her. I hope you don't mind that I did so. Then I had to tell her all about the big Drum Tower. I am so glad that we could all be together at Mount Hermon on Sunday and on our way up and back. We will always remember that visit and the service in the chapel and all the love that we could feel there flowing round-about us and your father.

I hope we shall see you before very long. Surely it will be at Thanksgiving time if not before.

With dearest love,

BES:B



November 16, 1934

Mr. William Speer
Asheville School for Boys,
Asheville, North Carolina

My dearest Billy:

I enclose a copy of a letter just written to Bernie and also the Order of Service at Mount Hannon last Sunday morning.

I sprained my right wrist a fortnight ago and have had a great deal of trouble from it and still have quite a little pain in it but I think it is getting all right again only it has made it very difficult to do any writing. So many of my signatures were shaky that I was afraid I might have trouble with the bank over some of the checks that I had to draw.

I had a very good time in Detroit these last two days but it is desolate to see how hard hit the city has been by the depression. Everybody had to get along on very much reduced incomes and yet they were very brave about it and were resolutely holding fast to every good work.

With dearest love,

MS:B

November 21, 1934
(Dict. Nov. 20)

Mr. William Speer,
Asheville School for Boys,
Asheville, North Carolina.

My dearest Billy:

I am sending herewith a copy of the full draft of my memorial address at Mount Hermon on November 11. It had to be cut down to about one-half this length in view of the necessary time limits, and it will be printed in the more abbreviated form. I thought you might like to see the whole statement, however, and to send it on to Patty when you are through with it. I have already sent Marnie a copy. I enclose herewith a stamped and addressed envelope to Patty.

A very lovely article on Elliott appeared in the Boston Evening Transcript of Saturday, November 10, and I have sent to Boston for several copies of this. It was written by a Miss Eleanore Fox. Somebody told me of her presence in Northfield and of their feeling that she would write something altogether sympathetic and helpful.

We didn't get any letter from you last week and are hoping for one soon. Margot has been with us constantly except for the Sunday when we were away at Mount Hermon. She has had a little cold the last few days, and mother has kept her home from school but hopes that she will be able to go back tomorrow. Holly is gaining, I think, and was out driving yesterday. She is still very thin, and Gene Pat keeps constant vigilant watch over her.

I spoke in the Central Presbyterian Church here Sunday morning, and then mother and Eleanore and Margot and I had dinner with Uncle Ned and Aunt Lucy.

We seem to have jumped back to summer weather today. All the heat is turned off and the windows are open. It is the kind of weather when it is very easy to catch cold.

Have you been doing anything further with regard to the Rhodes Scholarship. I think I reported to you some time ago that Dr. van Sanford told me that he thought the best place for you to apply would be Connecticut if you wanted to go forward with the matter.

Today is Marnie's birthday. One thinks of her far off in Peiping. I am glad that Dr. and Mrs. Sailer could be there these past week. Mrs. Sailer was a great comfort to Marnie.

With dearest love -

RES:AMW

FILING DEPT.
455
NOV 27 1934
SECRETARIES

November 23, 1934

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour,
5 Mullwich Wood Park,
London, E.C. 19, England

My dearest Patty:

It was a great comfort to get Bob's long letter this week telling about the trip to Skye. How well I remember Glencoe and the trip which Elliott and I made there from Oban in the summer of 1910. We went up to Ballachulish by train and spent all the day tramping around. Once or twice we had to wade the stream in order to see all that we wanted to see, and we got back happy and weary in the evening. It is very lovely now to have the memory of those days when you saw the big toad among the blue-bells, and when Elliott and I had so many happy tramps together.

I hope that you and Bob and Joan and Donald are all well and that Donald is quite recovered from his little ailment.

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter to Marnie and of the article about Elliott in the Boston Evening Transcript of November 10th.

With dearest love,

RES:B

FILING DEPT
NOV 28 1934
455
SECRETARIES

November 23, 1934

Mr. William Spier
Asheville School for Boys
Asheville, North Carolina

My dearest Billy:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter which I have just written to Marnie together with a copy of the article about Elliott in the Boston Evening Transcript of November 10th.

I am sending under separate cover your copy of the Princeton Alumni Weekly containing an account of the Yale game.

My right wrist still troubles me but it is getting better every day. I cannot do much more than sign my name with any comfort, however, although I have had to do a good deal more than this in writing notes of one kind and another.

We have had no letter from you either last week or this, I think, and are looking eagerly for the next one.

With dearest love,

MS:B

FILING DEPT.
455
DEC 20 1934
SECRETARIES

December 7, 1934

Mr William Speer
Asheville School for Boys,
Asheville, North Carolina

My dearest Billy:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter to Marnie with regard to affairs at Northfield. I came back Tuesday evening and at that time Holly and her father and mother were hoping to get back Wednesday evening. It is now Friday evening, however, and I have not heard of their return. I am afraid that they will be kept the whole of this week. I trust they can get back for Sunday. There is nothing to add to what I have written in the letter to Marnie. There may have been further developments at Greenfield but if so there has been no word of them in the New York Times and nothing as yet has come directly to us.

I have just come from speaking over the radio from Station WNCN. They are giving a series of quarter hour periods to the Foreign Mission Boards of North America and I opened the series with the first address this afternoon. Patty writes that she has a radio now that picks up from all over the continent but I don't know whether it is a short-wave set that can get America.

I was visiting Dr. Howard Kelly in Baltimore last week and while there his son was having a new radio installed and it picked up Germany without any difficulty whatever.

Margot is counting eagerly on our all being at Rockledge sometime during the Christmas holidays and Fran writes mother that they are hoping for a few days visit from you. Mrs. Welles is counting on us all being with them on Christmas but I hope we can go up some time that week and stay over the week-end and New Years.

With dearest love,

ELS:B

455

December 7, 1954

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour,
5 Bullwich Wood Park,
London, E.C. England

My dearest Patty:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter to Marnie with regard to affairs at Northfield. I came back Tuesday evening and at that time Holly and her father and mother were hoping to get back Wednesday evening. It is now Friday evening, however, and I have not heard of their return. I am afraid that they will be kept the whole of this week. I trust they can get back for Sunday. There is nothing to add to what I have written in the letter to Marnie. There may have been further developments at Greenfield but if so there has been no word of them in the New York Times and nothing as yet has come directly to us.

I have just come from speaking over the radio from Station WMCA. They are giving a series of quarter hour periods to the Foreign Mission Boards of North America and I opened the series with the first address this afternoon.

I sent some Christmas books to you and Bob a few days ago and today am sending a book to Oda in Edinburgh and one to Jean in your care as I do not have her address.

I am sending you today also a package of magazines and pamphlets that mother thought might be of interest to you.

I had a letter from one of our missionaries who is in England now and she gave me news in it about her children who are named Joan, and Donald, and Mary. It sounded very homelike.

With dearest love,

RLS:B

January 9, 1935
(Dict. Jan. 7)

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour,
5 Dullwich Wood Park,
London, S. E. 19, England.

My dearest Patty:

George called up one day last week before Mother and Eleanor and Margot had come back from "Rockledge", and I was afraid for a little while that we could not all get together. But he was very good and gave up his last evening to come down to the apartment with all the apparatus to show us the film of you and Bob and Joan and Donald. We were all delighted with it. It seemed to bring you right into the room with us, and I was especially pleased to see what a genial bruiser Donald is.

After showing the film last Friday night, Billy and mother went with George in Billy's car up to the Dickinsons' and there George in the goodness of his heart showed them the colored film of Marnie at Yenching. Then he took his boat at midnight.

Mother and the little girls had just got home at 6 o'clock that evening. Mother's desk was piled high with letters so that Saturday morning, Eleanor having gone back to Holly, I brought Margot over to the office, and she helped me transact business all morning. We have very good moving picture equipment here in our own offices, handling constantly the films which we send out to the churches, and Miss Cassells, the nurse, brought Caroline and Eleanor down, and Mrs. Lotz of our office showed the film to them and to Margot, running it through twice for them. Now we are planning to send it on to Marnie whenever there is good opportunity.

We are very grateful for it and for all your other Christmas remembrances.

Billy left this morning for Asheville, and mother has gone over to Philadelphia for the day to be with Daisy. Mother Susie is slipping quietly away and will be gone any hour now. Daisy very wisely has disposed of Feathers, giving her just a little breath of chloroform. The poor little doggy was utterly helpless, blind and feeble, and Daisy was only keeping her out of love and loyalty to the past and because she thought Feathers was a comfort to Mother Susie. Margot calls the little toy dog which she got Christmas "Feathers" so that the name is still with us.

I enclose herewith a copy of last week's letter to Marnie.

With dearest love to you all -

RES:AMW
Enc. 1.

January 12, 1936

Mr. Robert F. Broun,
5 Fulwich Wood Park,
London, E.C. 12,
England

My dearest Betty:

I enclose a copy of the last letter to Bernie, which will give you some of the family news.

I have just been reading your letter of January 8th and Bob's of January 9th with their accounts of the Christmas time and with their joyful intimation that it may be possible for you to come over this spring or early summer. I had not had time to read your letters until getting to the office this morning. They came yesterday but I was away from home all day and did not get back until eleven at night, and this morning mother and Margot went off early to the Spence School so that we have had no chance to talk over the summer plans but our arrangements are all open to any adjustment whatsoever and we will do anything that will make it possible for you to come. Rockledge is always available, as you know, and mother and Margot will go up at any time that you can come. We always try to get up, as you know, for the first week in May to plant the flower seeds, and mother is always glad to be there while I am away at the General Assembly, which comes towards the close of May. It will be a joy to have you any time whatever. Mother will go up in April or May or be there in June or at any time that it will be convenient for you.

Holly has not determined her plans for the summer as yet, but we have been hoping that she and the three little girls would come to Rockledge. I think Mr. and Mrs. Welles have not decided as yet as to whether they will open Glen Summit, but I know that they have thought of doing so and have been hoping that Holly and the little girls would be with them for a part of the summer. Caroline and Eleanor would not be out of school, however, until June, I judge, and in any case there will be plenty of room at Rockledge for everybody. I am arranging to build a new barn for which the foundations have already been dug. It will be in the low place west of the tool house and chicken yard, of which we have always thought as an ideal spot for a garden. It will be over against Wilbitt's land and there will be room on the first floor for three cars in addition to a store-room and a nice big carpenter shop. On the second floor there is to be a bookroom 14 X 14 feet with a wide hall and two other rooms, one of which can be used as a bedroom at any time and the other as a play-room and carpenter shop for the children. Then there will be a big attic for storage so that we can take care of all of Holly's things and any of the things of Mr. and Mrs. Welles that we at Mount Vernon and have to be moved. As you see with the present book-room and the new book-room and the other rooms in the new barn we shall have plenty of overflow space.

January 20, 1945

As to the problem of household help, Mrs. Wilhoite, who lives, as you know, just in the next place, is a perfectly wonderful cook and housekeeper. She has been with the Balchams near the Hotchkiss School for years but they were away at Christmas time and she came up each day to us. She would like to go on with this arrangement after this summer. Meanwhile, she has a friend who would be glad to come and work as we have, of course, Alice to take with us if we wish. She is a very nice colored woman who is with us now - faithful as the day is long, but rather slow.

Please don't let any conditions as to conditions on this side hinder your coming. It would be only pure joy to have you and both John and Donald, as the ladies too, or Donald only if that is all that could be managed. If all four of you could come so much the better.

It was lovely to get your letters with all their happy reflection of the Christmas time. There is so much that is unhappy and unloving outside that it is a joy to have this little serenity and peace within.

We had our Staff Dinner last night at the Aldine Club with much happiness and hilarity. Uncle Ned was there but Aunt Lucy could not come. Mother felt she could not leave Marget and was hesitant about going in any case. It is hard to keep up the outside appearance of merriment when one is thinking all the time within of other things and other days.

I trust you will have received the copy of the report of the Memorial Service at Mount Herman last November. The trustees have sent out some 25,000 copies of it, I think and we are getting very beautiful letters with regard to it.

With warmest love to you all,

RFK:D

February 11, 1935
(Dict. Feb. 8)

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour,
5 Dulwich Wood Park,
London S. E. 19, England.

My dearest Patty:

I enclose herewith a copy of my latest letter to Marnie with the home news. I trust that Joanie and Don are both well. I have just been looking again at the Christmas card which they sent with their Christmas present. Please kiss them both for me and tell them how anxious we are to see them. I don't know what either or both of them will make of Andy. We are planning to have him at "Rockledge" this summer, and he is as big now as a bear. Indeed he has often been mistaken for a bear in the woods around Mount Hermon. Margot is very anxious to see him again. She went to the zoo a few days ago with Mr. Wells and now carries around with her as a companion who commands her transitory affections a large beast whom she calls "efelant." He is one of her favorite "animuls."

Aunt Clara, like the spizzerinctous old lady that she is, has just started off on a motor trip all by herself, with only her chauffeur to Florida. She has had a bad cold, and Aunt Mig has encouraged her to go in the hope of getting rid of it. We have had a run of them too, but I think that they are letting up a bit now.

With dearest love to you and Bob and the children -

RES:AMW
Enc. 1.

February 13, 1935

Mrs. Charles L. Reed,
234 Penn Street
Huntington, Pa.

My dearest Migs:

It was good to get your letter of February 7th acknowledging the receipt of the report of the memorial service and sending a copy of the editorial note in "The Presbyterian Banner." I had not seen this until you sent it as my copy of The Banner does not come until Saturday. We are getting the most beautiful letters with regard to the memorial.

I am going over all of Elliott's late letters and papers writing out a very full memorial of his life, and I am getting a great deal of comfort from this constant association with Elliott and his dear spirit.

I was glad to hear of Aunt Clara's getting off to Florida and trust that she may get rid of her cold there and come back in good shape to start her garden. I had a happy hour last evening in making out the order for flower seeds. We started two new perennial beds last summer but rely on the annuals for flowers for the house. We have a beautiful big garden space for them and I am laying in an ample supply of seeds from Burpee, Henderson, Stumpf & Walter, and Fraser of California. In addition I have a fine lot of seeds from Suttons in London, sent by Patty and Bob.

We are delighted to hear today from Bob that Patty and the two children and the nurse will come over to spend three months with us this summer. It will be lovely to have them at Rockledge together with as much of Holly and her three little girls as we can claim from Mr. and Mrs. Welles who are hoping to have them part of the time with them at Glen Summit, near Wilkes Barre.

Billie has been asked to stay on at the School at Asheville. He has done good work there and had his salary doubled this year and will have it increased again next year if he stays, as he thinks he will.

Holly is still undecided as to her plans but is looking forward to settling down somewhere next fall with the three little girls with her in a home of their own.

With dearest love to you and Charles,

February 13, 1955

Mr. William Speer
Asheville School for Boys
Asheville, North Carolina

My dearest Billie:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter to Marnie to which I have just added a postscript with its good news regarding Patty and Joan and Donald.

Your good letter came this morning just after mother had gone down to the boat to meet Miss Clara Reed. I am glad that things are clear for you for next year. My letter to Marnie tells of Holly's different thoughts. Dave Porter has sent me a copy of his note to you with regard to your going to Mount Hermon or taking up work in the Student Christian Movement. He wrote me some time ago about your going to Mount Hermon and I told him that that would be a matter for you to decide.

Mr. Roberts of Northfield tells me that Captain Stokes of the Massachusetts State police tells him that the whole case is now in the hands of the Attorney General of the State for his review. I don't know whether anything will come of this or not but I have not heard of their having any more evidence to present to the Attorney General than they presented at the inquest before Judge Hays at Greenfield.

I enclose a copy of a letter from Dad Elliott of Chicago with a very interesting report on College Visits under the Auspices of the Spiritual Emphasis Committee, by Dr. Pauck, telling of the conditions in the colleges. Mother was very much interested in this and thought that you would be.

With dearest love,

RES:B

February 20, 1935

Mrs. Robert F. Barbour
5 Dullwich Wood Park,
London, S.E 19, England.

My dearest Patty:

I enclose herewith a copy of this week's letter to Marnie, together with a copy of Elliott's statement before the Jersey City Presbytery and a clipping from the Lakeville Journal with regard to the enterprise of Henry Chiera, Jr. The Chiers family will rejoice to see you in Lakeville and I cannot tell you what happiness the prospect gives to mother and Billy and me. It has made everything brighter. When Elliott went my interest in the gardens seemed totally to disappear, and I wondered whether it would come back again, but with the thought of you and the children I find the interest waking once more and the desire to have the place just as bright and beautiful as it can be for you.

Please tell Bob how much we appreciate his willingness to let you come and how glad we would be if he could come with you. Can't he do so even for part of the time?

With dearest love,

RFB:B

February 20, 1935

Mr. William Speer
Asheville School for Boys
Asheville, North Carolina

My dearest Billy:

I enclose herewith a copy of this week's letter to Marnie and I am sending with it a copy of Elliott's statement to the Jersey City Presbytery which is referred to and also a copy of the statement on Mexico. I am enclosing with these a page from a little magazine published by the American Cast Iron Pipe Company of Birmingham, Alabama, giving some most interesting facts with regard to accident occurrence.

Holly has been deeply moved by your lovely letter to her. I think she has not reached any definite conclusion yet with regard to the Baldwin School in Bryn Mawr. Indeed, I am not sure that the official offer has as yet been made to her but I judge that that position is available if she wishes to take it, and Miss Brownell has written also from the other School in Bryn Mawr asking whether Holly would be interested in considering any call there.

I trust that you are all well and quite rid of your colas.

With dearest love,

RES:B

February 15, 1955

Mrs. Elliott Spoor
The Croyle,
12 East 86th Street
New York City

My dearest Holly:

I have received the check clearing off the last indebtedness of the estate and I have written to Uncle Ned with regard to suggestions for investment as to what now remains.

It is for you to decide whether you would like to keep so much in the Savings Banks at a low rate of interest or would prefer to have it transferred into first grade bonds. The Savings banks interest this year I think will be only 2%.

I have almost completed the first draft of the memorial material and am working now on the last chapter which will be made up of some of Elliott's sermons and addresses. I am writing some of these out from the notes which he used. It has been a rich experience and has made Elliott seem more real and near than ever, if this were possible. Four of the chapters have been written out in typewriting and as soon as I can revise these I will bring them to you for you to go over and for your suggestions. I don't know how soon it will be possible to get the other chapters written out: There will be seventeen in all.

Can you tell me what day of the week and what day of the month it was when you left Tanagi last September to return to Mount Hermon?

It was so good to see the little children on Saturday. I trust your cold is going, as Margot's and mine seem to be.

With dearest love,

RIS:B

June 17, 1935

Mr. Charles L. Reid,
134 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pa.

My dearest fig:

I sent Aunt Clara last week a copy of my letter to Marnie giving some of the home news asking her to share it with you and a good letter just received from her this morning says that she had done so.

I passed through Huntingdon last night and the night before and wish I could have stopped off. I had to speak in Sewickly yesterday morning and then in the evening at the Carnegie Music Hall at the first of a summer series of union church meetings in which some twenty Pittsburgh churches combine.

It was very hot but I found a comfortable place in the Fort Pitt Hotel under an electric fan and was able to keep comfortable in the afternoon between the morning and the evening meeting.

I hope that you and Aunt Clara can drive up to Lakeville some time this summer while Patty and her two little children are with us. Patty is in blooming health and the children are as lovely and interesting youngsters as you ever saw. Donald is the solidest, rosiest, most contented little boy who will be walking now, I think, in a few weeks. Joan is a fascinating youngster and she and Margot are as happy as little birds all day long.

Hockledge is beautiful now. The gardens are coming along gloriously although we shall not have our best colors until late August and early September. The new barn is a great success, or will be when it is finished within a few weeks. It will give us ample room for visiting cars, play rooms for the children, storage room for all of Holly's things, a carpenter shop and a big book room 24 X 24 feet as an overflow for all our books and as a literary work shop for Billy and me.

Can't you and Aunt Clara drive up some time to see us? It is a very easy and comfortable drive from Huntingdon and you ought to make the acquaintance of your grand-nephew and grand-nieces.

Holly has been in Peiping with Marnie and is starting home in July expecting to get to New York August 11th or 12th and Patty is delaying her sailing in order to be here when Holly arrives.

Mrs. Charles L. Reid,

- 2 -

June 17, 1970

I had a nice visit with Billy in Asheville a fortnight ago at the time of the Biennial Meeting of the Women's Missionary Societies where I saw Mrs. Reeves and Anna Fisher. Billy gets through his work this week and expects to get up here Saturday night.

With much love to Charlie and Charles and Barbara,

Your affectionate,

FLS:B

July 29, 1935
(Dict. July 26th)

Dr. Robert F. Barbour
5 Dulwich Wood Park
London S. E. 19, England

My dear Bob:-

I enclose herewith a copy of my letter to Marnie giving some account of my air trip this past week to California and return.

Patty and Maggie drove down yesterday from Rockledge through a deluge of rain and spent the afternoon shopping and sightseeing in a drizzle that followed the downpour. In the evening it cleared and they were off to Rockefeller City and to the movie "She." Today is a fresh, cool day after nearly a month of hot humidity and we are driving back together in the evening to Lakeville. I haven't seen Patty and Maggie since morning-- they were planning all kinds of sightseeing expeditions for the day.

Patty says that Donald is walking now. He was just on the verge of it when I saw him last a fortnight ago.

With dearest love from us all,

RES:CH
Enc.

January 30, 1936
(Dictated January 29)

Miss Joan Barbour,
#5 Dulwich Wood Park,
London, S.E. 19,
England.

My dearest Joannie:

Granny and I were delighted to get your messages this week and the beautiful things that you had made for us. Granny could hardly believe that you had done all by yourself the beautiful card that you sent to me. I wish I could have seen you making it.

We miss you and Donald more than I can tell you and we love to think of you as you played about Rockledge last summer.

At Christmas time Granny and Uncle Bill and Caroline and Eleanor and Margot all went up to Rockledge and had a beautiful time skating on the ponds. There was not very much snow then but now the snow is so deep that it would be over your head in front of the new barn. It is good to have so much snow and Bill Jenks writes that he thinks we ought to be able to put the flowers in this spring earlier than ever because the snow will have protected the ground all winter and will make it so fresh and moist in the spring time.

Here in the city the snow is very troublesome. When it is shovelled off the side walk and from the middle of the street, it makes great banks that stand along the pavement until they can be cleared away. You would be interested to see the big machines that come along, pushing the snow into big heaps and then feeding it into trucks that carry it away.

We have been reading in the papers all about the death of King George and the beginning of the reign of King Edward. Yesterday morning many people got up at four o'clock in order to listen over the radio to the funeral service.

I trust you and Donald and Maggie and your father and mother are all well. Please give them all my love and thank your mother for the heather from Skye.

With dearest love,